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before the start of the new fiscal year

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ASIA



A Chinese court convicts Bo Xilai of corruption and sentences him to life in prison.

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At least 39 people are killed in a terrorist attack at a Kenyan mall.

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Taxi driver, co-defendant found not guilty of beating teen. PAGE 3
PSS support staffers to get salary upgrades. PAGE 6

Only 16 opt out of settlement

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Only a few members of the pension program chose to opt out of the settlement agreement between the government and the Retirement Fund, based on NMI Retirement Fund records.

Last Friday was the deadline for all retirees and active members of the defined benefit plan to opt out, if they wish to, from the settlement agreement, which is expected to



Senate floor leader Ray Yumul (Ind-Saipan), right, submits a letter informing NMI Retirement Fund trustee ad litem Joseph C. Razzano that he is opting out of the settlement agreement, around noon on Friday. Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) also opted out around the same time on Friday.

be approved by the end of this month.

Based on Fund records, only 16 members chose to remove themselves from the agreement: 13 retirees and three active members.

Their removal from the settlement is expected to reduce the investment fund by \$383,708: \$272,425 from the pension of 13 retirees and \$111,283 employee contributions plus interest from the three active members.

On Saipan, seven retirees opted out from the case.

All three active members who opted out from the case are from Saipan. They are employees of the Department of Correction, Division of Environmental Quality, and a member of the Legislature. Of these three, the member of the

See ONLY 16 on Page 4

2 lawmakers among 16 opt-outs

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Senate floor leader Ray Yumul (IR-Saipan) and Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) opted out of the settlement agreement between the NMI Retirement Fund, the government and plaintiff Betty Johnson, joining 14 others who also opted out as of Friday.

» **Governor: They are 'not more protected' than those in settlement class**
» **House, Senate to act on Fund settlement deal measures in today's sessions**

A third lawmaker—Sen. Joaquin Borja (Ind-Tinian)—had “considered” opting out but did not do so by 5pm Friday. Despite not opting out, Borja said his concerns about the settlement deal remain.

Senate Vice President Victor Hocog (R-Rota) and Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan) also did not opt out as of the Sept. 20 deadline to do so.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, meanwhile, said on Friday that those who opted out are

“not more protected” than those who have remained in the settlement class.

Moreover, Inos said he understands that many of those who were planning to opt out or already opted out as of late Friday morning were only against the “beyond reach” plaintiff attorneys’ fees and costs, estimated at over \$40 million as of last week, and not the “substance” of the settlement deal.

“They are not any more protected

See LAWMAKERS on Page 4

Customs K9 not allowed at US Post Office

» **12 complete Customs training**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

CNMI Customs Services Division director Joe Mafnas said drug-detector dogs or K9 are no longer allowed to sniff through mails and packages at the U.S. Post Office in Chalan Kanoa, but the option of checking incoming mails while they are still in sacks at the airport could delay the availability of mails at the post office.

Right now, the mails at the post office do not go through inspections of highly-trained dogs which, for years, have provided

See CUSTOMS on Page 4



From left, Customs Services Division director Joe Mafnas, Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, Workforce Investment Agency executive director Edith Deleon Guerrero, Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider prepare to present certificate of completion of basic Customs training to 11 of 12 Customs personnel on Friday morning.

New Carolinian Affairs chief touts cultural tourism plans

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos administered the oath of office Friday night to Carolinian Affairs Office executive assistant Jose Tilipao Limes, who laid out his plans to further preserve and strengthen the Carolinian culture and traditions while proudly showcasing them to visitors.

Limes took the oath of office, with his wife Soledad holding the Bible, before a large crowd at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan.

In an interview shortly after, Limes said he is thankful for those who came to witness his oath taking and listen to his plans, which include further preservation and strengthening of Carolinian heritage and traditions.

"I would also like to develop Carolinian cultural grounds here, which would include salt-making demonstrations and other demonstrations of Carolinian culture," he said, adding that he also plans to set up a large aquarium as part of efforts to promote cultural tourism.

Catherine Perry Anderson, serving



Gov. Eloy S. Inos, left, administers the oath of office to Carolinian Affairs Office executive assistant Jose Tilipao Limes, center, while Limes' wife, Soledad, right, holds the Bible Friday night at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan.

as mistress of ceremony, reminded the crowd that every individual has the responsibility to teach their young about the local culture.

She said people should not rely solely on the Carolinian Affairs Office to

do it all alone. "It begins at home," she added.

Limes' oath-taking was held some two months after Inos appointed him to fill the post vacated by Angie Iginoef-Mangarero, when the latter retired.

Limes' appointment does not require the Senate's advice and consent. Article 3, Section 18 of the NMI Constitution requires the appointment of an executive assistant for Carolinian Affairs.

Inos, in appointing Limes, said the

latter "is a respectable member of the Carolinian community" and has "vast knowledge of customary practices and traditions," has "years of experience in government service [which] will serve as a tremendous asset to the Carolinian Affairs Office and the people we serve."

The governor had also discussed the increasing demand of tourists to experience more cultural activities during their visits to the CNMI, and Limes' speech, delivered in the vernacular, embraced that vision.

Limes is a long-time educator and former vice principal of Garapan Elementary School, as well as the curriculum writer for the Carolinian bilingual program. He is also a well-known musician and local radio personality. He has been actively involved in numerous civic organizations such as the Youth Advisory Council, the Zoning Board, and the Arts Council, among others. He earned a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Guam.

Also present during Friday night's ceremony were Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, Cabinet members, lawmakers, Carolinian Affairs Advisory Board chair Dave Attao, government personnel, families, friends, and supporters.

Over 1K take part in Mid-Autumn Festival

Describing the 2013 Mid-Autumn Festival a success is saying it mildly, as the expected turnout of only 100 quickly ballooned to over 1,000 Thursday night at the Kanoa Resort.

The hotel's resident manager, Mark Ratliff, said he was pleasantly surprised with the huge number of tourists and local residents who took part in the event.

The 2013 Mid-Autumn Festival had it all. It boasted of topnotch entertainment rendered by Do Re Mi music school standouts like Allan Tudela and Zhen Yu Su. The 13-year-old Tudela played *Zigeunerweisen* by P. de Sarasate on his violin, while 17-year-old Zhen played *Czardas*, also on his violin.

Annie Liu, a longtime resident of

Saipan who works for Hinemlu Massage, also sang a traditional Chinese song.

Kanoa Resort also sold Chinese delicacies that drew long lines that stretched from inside the lobby to outside the hotel.

The Chinese Association of Saipan also performed a lion dance to the delight of everyone, especially the children.

To cap it off, Kanoa Resort lit thousands of dollars worth of fireworks as the 2013 Mid-Autumn Festival was winding down.

Do Re Mi Music School teacher Wang Lin said the Mid-Autumn Festival centers around the moon cake, which explains why it is also more commonly known as the Moon Cake Festival.

He said the festival celebrates the

gathering of family and friends after a successful harvest and serves as a sort of thanksgiving and a prayer for good fortune.

Wang said it is the second most important holiday in China, next to the Chinese New Year, and it is normal for the Chinese to travel great distances to reunite with family members during the Mid-Autumn Festival.

The People's Republic of China listed the festival as an "intangible cultural heritage" in 2006, and it was made a Chinese public holiday in 2008. It is also a public holiday in Taiwan. Among the Vietnamese, it is considered the second most important holiday tradition. The day following Mid-Autumn Festival is a public holiday in Hong Kong and Macau. (Mark Rabago)



The Chinese Association of Saipan performs a lion dance to the delight of everyone, especially the children, during last Thursday night's 2013 Mid-Autumn Festival at the Kanoa Resort.



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

MVA joins Guangdong International Tourism Industry Expo

To raise awareness of Saipan, Tinian and Rota in the Guangdong, China market, the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) participated in the



public and 80,000 tourism trade representatives. The MVA joined exhibitors from over 40 countries and regions at the event. As Guangzhou is one of the largest gateways to China, the trade show has great influence on the southern China tourism market. The MVA used the opportunity to reaffirm relationships with regional travel trade partners and distribute booklets and other information at a booth set up with Brand USA. The MVA also joined

in the **China (Guangdong) International Tourism Industry Expo (CITIE)** held on Aug. 31, 2013.

CITIE attracted 500,000 members of the general



eight other U.S. partners at an informational seminar organized by the **U.S. Consulate**, where the tourism office presented on the abundant tourism resources of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Through August of this fiscal year, the Northern Marianas has received a record 102,810 visitors from China, a 42 percent increase compared to the same period last year. Arrivals from China are expected to continue to increase.

Paid for with a federal grant from the Office of Insular Affairs.



Taxi driver, co-defendant found not guilty of beating teen

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The driver of an illegal taxi and his co-defendant were both acquitted on Friday of all charges relating to allegations that they beat up and threatened to kill a teen passenger.

The six Superior Court jurors reached a unanimous verdict finding taxi driver Han Tai Lin not guilty of assault with a dangerous weapon, kidnapping, and conspiracy to commit kidnapping. The jurors also found Ji Jing Borja not guilty of kidnapping, and conspiracy to commit kidnapping.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho, who decided on the misdemeanor charges, found the 30-year-old Lin not guilty of assault and battery and disturbing the peace.

Camacho also found the 24-year-old Borja not guilty of disturbing the peace.

After the judge announced the end of the session on Friday, Lin and Borja, both in tears, hugged each other. Lin then hugged his crying wife, who was carrying their 3-year-old baby and holding their other 7-year-old child.

The teen, who watched the hearing with his father, remained quiet.

Camacho said he was firmly convinced beyond reasonable doubt that the government failed to meet its burden to prove the charges of assault and battery and disturbing the peace against the defendants.

Camacho said that Lin and the teen both had "very different" versions of the incident.

The judge noted that the testimony of a bystander who helped the teen when he fell on the road was very different from that of the teen's.

The judge noted that the

sticking point was the testimony regarding the taxicab's license plate.

Camacho said the teen testified that after he jumped from the taxi he wrote down the license plate on his arm. The bystander, however, testified that it was he who wrote the license plate on the teen's arm.

"Why would the alleged victim in this case make up such a story?" the judge asked.

Another thing that Camacho found "strange and troubling" was why the teen did not call the police immediately.

Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer, counsel for Lin, said in an interview with reporters that they're "obviously incredibly pleased."

"We think the jury made the right decision," he said.

Attorney Colin Thompson, counsel for Borja, said he did not know what to expect walking into the courtroom Friday afternoon.

"Of course we're very pleased with the result. But more than anything, it's a relief," Thompson said.

Assistant attorney general Nicole Driscoll said they appreciate the jurors for their service but that she's disappointed with their verdict.

"I don't feel like justice was done for the victim," said Driscoll, who was assisted in the trial by assistant attorney general Brian Flaherty.

The trial began on Monday. The jurors started deliberating on Thursday afternoon.

The boy, who is now 17, tes-

tified that he called the taxi to pick him up from Chacha Junior High in Kagman and drop him off at the house of his then girlfriend in Tanapag, where there was fiesta at that time before noon on Oct. 7, 2012.

The boy stated that Lin got mad when he told him that he had no money and would pay his fare when they arrive at his girlfriend's house. The teen said Lin pulled an 18-inch screwdriver and punched him twice or thrice on the face.

Lin denied beating the boy and claimed that the teen tried to extort money from him by threatening to have him arrested for operating an illegal taxi.

Lin testified that he later picked up Borja, who is one of his customers, from Garapan. He said the teen then suddenly jumped from the taxi.



Ji Jing Borja, left, and Han Tai Lin, carrying his child, walk outside the Judicial Building in Susupe Friday afternoon after they were acquitted of all charges that they beat up and threatened to kill a teen taxicab passenger. Also in photo is Lin's wife and a translator.

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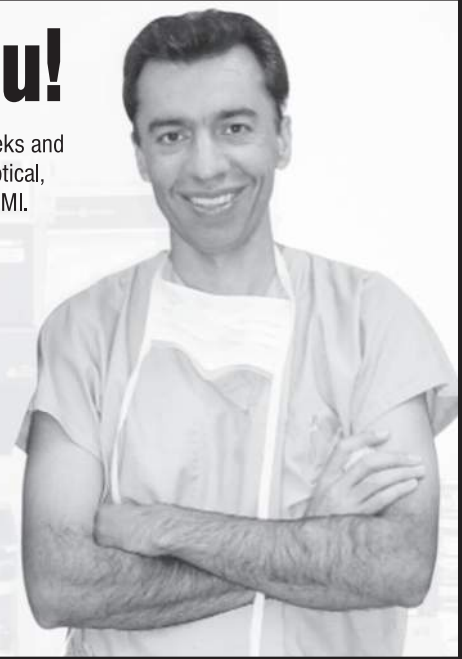
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CNMI faces Medicaid fund losses but...

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The CNMI could lose millions of dollars in Medicaid funding under a Republican continuing resolution to keep the federal government open beyond Sept. 30 but at the same time it could receive \$32.5 million to test the feasibility of joining the national food stamp program as a result of the U.S. House of Representatives' separate passage of two different bills last week, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said.

Sablan also met with U.S. Labor deputy assistant secretary for policy Dr. James H. Moore "to ensure the process for extending the transition period is on track."

The transitional Common-

wealth-only worker, or CW, program ends on Dec. 31, 2014, unless the U.S. Labor secretary extends it. Without an extension, the CNMI will lose access to some 12,000 skilled, professional foreign workers that fuel the tourism-based economy.

Sablan said Moore told him that "he had all the information and data needed to complete the analysis and make a recommendation on the transition extension to Labor Secretary Thomas E. Perez."

"I reiterated my concern that the Secretary make his decision this year to lift the cloud of uncertainty about future availability of labor that our economy currently faces," Sablan added.

Medicaid

The Republican-controlled U.S. House of Representatives passed on Friday a plan to fund federal agencies past Sept. 30 but the plan also strips funding for the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, which the CNMI also relies on for Medicaid and other health funding.

Sablan, an independent caucusing with Democrats in Congress, said the Republican continuing resolution would strip the CNMI and other U.S. territories of new Medicaid funding "as part of the effort to defund Obamacare."

"The new law is providing \$109 million in additional Medicaid funding for the NMI, money that is helping to keep our hospital open," Sablan said.

Medicaid is the national health insurance program for Americans below the poverty line.

By a vote of 230 to 189, the U.S. House sent its continuing resolution to the U.S. Senate, which could kill the measure.

Sablan said veterans are also at risk of losing access to services and face delays in medical claims processing, if the Republican continuing resolution passes.

"To prevent that, I have joined with 36 of my colleagues to ask President Obama to designate certain Department of Veterans Affairs employees 'essential' in the event of a government shutdown. This will ensure continuity of service to our veterans, who served our country without excuse or delay," Sablan said.

Food stamp

While the CNMI risks losing millions in Medicaid funding, it stands to gain \$32.5 million related to joining the national food stamp program in a separate bill that the U.S. House narrowly passed on Thursday.

The \$32.5 million will be used to test the feasibility of joining the national Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP.

The five-year pilot program for the CNMI is part of the Nutrition Reform and Work Opportunity Act or H.R. 3102 that U.S. House Agriculture Committee chair Frank Lucas (R-Oklahoma) introduced.

Sablan said the \$32.5 million is in addition to the annual Nutritional Assistance Program

ment agreement.

In the Senate session calendar this morning are a House joint resolution requesting the governor to object to the over \$40 million attorney's fees proposed by Betty Johnson's lawyers, and a Senate resolution supporting retirees who opt out of the settlement deal.

During a House session this afternoon, Rep. John Paul Sablan (Cov-Saipan) will be introducing a legislative initiative proposing that 15 percent of the CNMI government's budget be remitted directly to the NMI Retirement Fund.

Rep. Janet Maratita (Ind-Saipan) will be introducing her resolution urging the governor to reconsider and withdraw from the Fund settlement deal, saying that pursuing the terms that violate the NMI Constitution "clearly constitutes the impeachable offense of neglect of duty under Article 3 Section 19."

House Speaker Joseph DeLeon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), meanwhile, will also be introducing a joint resolution acknowledging and approving the settlement agreement in the Johnson v. Inos case as required for the final disbursement of employee contributions under the settlement agreement.

block grant that the CNMI receives, currently at \$12.148 million.

He said a working group, led by Majority Leader Eric Cantor, put together H.R. 3102 and kept the NMI pilot program intact.

"The Senate has already passed its 'farm bill' so H.R. 3102 should now go to a conference committee for resolution of differences between the House and Senate versions," Sablan added.

CUSTOMS

From Page 1

en to be an added inspection tool, including interception of Christmas cards laced with the drug "ice" years back.

"Our K9 is basically banned at the U.S. Post Office for several weeks now but we continue to communicate to the Guam and Hawaii offices to allow us to use our K9 at the post office because it makes the job of inspecting mails faster than when it's done at the airport when the mails are still in sacks," Mafnas told *Saipan Tribune* at the awarding of training certificates for 11 of 12 Customs personnel on Friday.

Mafnas said dogs can "pinpoint mails with drugs faster when the mails are already laid out instead of having all the mails in the sack" at the airport.

Customs is awaiting a response from the U.S. Post Office on the matter.

Based on preliminary information, the U.S. Postal Service does not allow Customs K9, with their handlers, to check mails and packages without the presence of a U.S. postal inspector, Mafnas said.

"But the thing is, we do not have a postal inspector full-time here in the CNMI; the only one they have in this area is based in Guam," he added.

Mafnas said it's "bothersome" that the prohibition on K9 at the post office came "without a warning or notice."

This comes barely weeks after Customs revived its K9 program in early July.

The CNMI Customs Services Division's K9 Unit was once touted a model in the Pacific but

was sidelined starting in June 2012 due to lack of funds and certified drug-detector dog handlers. When Mafnas got re-appointed to the job he previously held, one of his priorities was to revive the K9 unit.

Training completion

In related story, Customs personnel received basic customs training completion certificate on Friday morning at the governor's office on Capital Hill.

Of the 12 who completed the training, 11 were at the ceremony, while one was on Rota.

The Customs director introduced the 11 to Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, and other officials.

Mafnas said the group received training from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, the CNMI Customs Investigative Unit, the U.S. Postal Service, and the Department of Public Safety. Four of them were also Workforce Investment Agency trainees.

One of those who completed the training is James F. Santos, who has been with Customs for about a year.

"I like to help protect our borders from any illegal drugs and activities that's why I worked with Customs. I want the CNMI to become a better place," Santos, a father of two, told *Saipan Tribune*.

The governor, during a brief ceremony, congratulated the Customs personnel whom he said were able to show their commitment by completing the training.

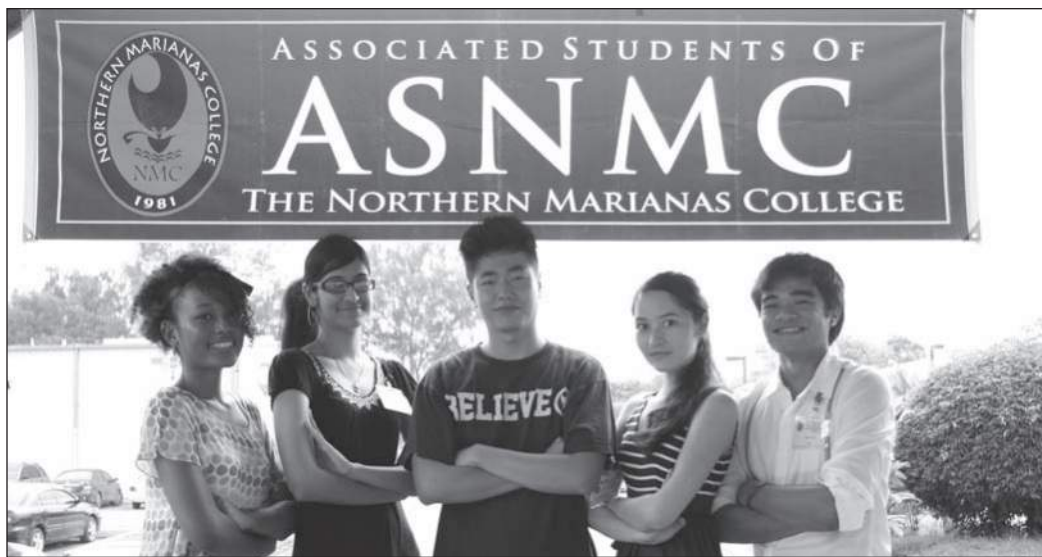
"And we'd like for you to do a good job," Inos said.

Mafnas also presented the new Customs patch during the ceremony.

of class members opted out from the settlement, it is anticipated by many that the final settlement agreement between parties will be approved during the Sept. 30 hearing at the federal court.

Fund records indicate that there are a total of 3,160 retirees and beneficiaries on three islands. Of this number, retirees total 2,395; surviving spouses number 591; and surviving children total 174. The bulk is on Saipan, which has a total of 2,081. On Rota, beneficiaries total 264, of which 216 are retirees, 37 are surviving spouses, and 11 are surviving children of members. Tinian, meantime, has 192 beneficiaries, of which 148 are retirees, 35 are surviving spouses, and nine are surviving children of members.

Due to the refund laws that were signed last year, active members of the Fund were permitted to withdraw their contributions. Last month over 1,600 refund checks were issued by the pension agency.



MEET AND GREET

NMC's Associated Students of the Northern Marianas College 2013-2014 candidates take time to pose during their Meet and Greet forum held yesterday at the NMC campus in As Terlaje. From left to right, Jian Joyner, Riya R. Nathrani, Alex Chen, Lani Russell, and Ervin Cruz. Not in photo are Faithful Mendiola and Justine Mallari. Election Day is on Sept. 24-25, 2013, from 9am to 6pm at the Student Center in Building J. All NMC students registered for Fall 2013 are eligible to vote and must present a valid student I.D.

NMC

LAWMAKERS

From Page 1

than the folks in the settlement class. To get the benefit of that protection [under the Constitution], they have to assert their rights through a different venue; for example they have to assert their claims individually. They won't be entitled to representation by class attorneys. What that means is if they need representation, they would have to do that on their own. Those are the things they should have thought about before opting out," Inos told *Saipan Tribune*.

Inos said the government and the Fund, with the support of lawmakers and others, are opposed to the high cost of plaintiff's attorneys' fees and they have faith that the court will not approve these fees as currently proposed.

Yumul and Tebuteb—with their individual letter addressed to Fund trustee *ad litem* Joseph C. Razzano in tow—opted out of the settlement deal around noon on Friday, in the presence of reporters on Capital Hill.

"I agree with the NMI Retirement Fund and you as trustee *ad litem* dated September 12, 2013 that because of the sheer

size of the plaintiff's attorney's fees awards, the lack of supporting records to justify them, and the undue burden the requests places on the NMI Fund members and the CNMI government whom the source of funds are needed to ensure all retirees are paid, if approved will hurt every resident and will undoubtedly cripple and impact our ability to ensure the CNMI government's continued funding of public safety, education and public health," Yumul said in his one-page letter to Razzano.

Yumul said he is also concerned that his "constitutional rights to not be able to have a voice as only active retirees who constitutes 10 percent of more as opt-outs can render this settlement as null and void."

"I am therefore excluding myself from this settlement agreement as stated above," Yumul told Razzano.

Tebuteb, for his part, said although he generally does not agree with the settlement agreement in the Betty Johnson case, he is "appalled" at Johnson's attorneys' proposed fees.

Tebuteb said the proposed attorneys' fees are "outrageously high."

"I am aware of people who do not necessarily understand the

terms of the settlement agreement and therefore any waiver of their rights may be unconstitutional. I am therefore exercising my right to be excluded from this settlement," Tebuteb told Razzano.

A hearing for the settlement agreement's final approval is expected to proceed.

Hocog, in a message to the public through social media, said those who opt out do not have a guaranteed payment of at least 75 percent of their regular pension once the court approves the settlement agreement.

"For those individuals who will no longer be recipients of the settlement agreement, I send you this message not to panic for I am very certain the Administration and the Legislature will not abandon your constitutional rights and protection from the Constitution of the Northern Mariana Islands. In advance, I will continue to seek and ask for your patience as you will give us time to weather out resolutions to address the choice you have made," Hocog said.

Fund resolutions, initiative

In today's Senate and House sessions, lawmakers are poised to introduce and/or act on measures related to the Fund settle-

'Lord was terminated by Johnson since March 2012'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Timothy R. Lord, a San Rafael, California-based lawyer who is seeking \$3.6 million or \$5.6 million in attorney's fees as one of the counsels for Betty Johnson, has been terminated by Johnson since March 2012.

Johnson and his first and current counsel, Bruce Jorgensen, disclosed this in their declarations filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Friday.

Johnson said that in a written notice and verbal notice transmitted to Lord on April 19 and March 21, 2012 respectively, Lord was "disengaged, terminated, and discharged" as counsel in her class action.

In his declaration, Jorgensen said that prior to and following the inception of Johnson's lawsuit on June 26, 2009, he was the only attorney representing plaintiffs.

"In that capacity, I have from the outset and through the duration of this litigation possessed full authority of plaintiffs to retain, engage, disengage, terminate, and discharge other attorneys on plaintiffs' behalf," Jorgensen said.

In that capacity, he said, he communicated with Lord to appear as his co-counsel on plaintiffs' behalf.

Jorgensen said that based on events that transpired between February 2012 and March 2012, and based on communi-

cations which occurred during March 2012 and April 2012—between himself, Johnson (then appearing as Jane Doe) and then co-plaintiff John Doe—the decision was made to disengage, terminate and discharge Lord as his co-counsel.

Jorgensen said the plaintiffs fully authorized the decision.

Jorgensen said he then told Lord of this decision, first via telephone on or immediately following March 21, 2012, and then in writing on April 19, 2012, during which he transmitted to Lord a written notice of his disengagement, termination and discharge, as plaintiffs' counsel, which he also transmitted to plaintiffs.

Jorgensen said that Johnson

then received from Lord on April 19, 2012, a written notice acknowledging his receipt of the notice—with Johnson reiterating her understanding that Lord would no longer be her lawyer.

Jorgensen said he also met and conferred with other prospective co-counsel prior to and during this litigation.

He disclosed that among such prospective co-counsel with whom he met with were attorney F. Lee Bailey, whom he met and conferred with at his U.S. mainland residence, and attorneys Margery Bronster and Robert Hatch, with whom he met at their Honolulu office.

Jorgensen said he ultimately

opted to bring aboard Bronster and Hatch as his co-counsel.

Jorgensen said he informed Bronster and Hatch of the events relating to Lord as those transpired during March and April 2012, including Lord's ultimate disengagement, termination, and discharge.

He said he also contacted many CNMI and Guam attorneys in an effort to seek help from them in representing the plaintiffs but none were willing to do so, except for Stephen Woodruff.

He said Woodruff agreed to serve as local counsel on plaintiffs' behalf in spring 2012.

On Thursday, Lord asked the court to allow him to appear telephonically during the

hearing on their attorneys' fees and costs. He said he wants to appear telephonically due to his medical restrictions. U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood granted the request.

Aside from Lord, Johnson's other counsels—Jorgensen, Bronster Hoshibata law firm, and Woodruff—also submitted application for attorneys' fees and costs. This would bring the total fees and costs to at least \$40.6 million.

The hearing on the attorneys' fees and costs will be held on Sept. 30 2013, which is also the date for the final approval of the settlement agreement in Johnson's class action.

2 brothers allegedly gang up on man

Two brothers allegedly beat up a man and hit him with a baseball bat at the Miha Housing in Garapan Wednesday night.

Francisco Roberto Epen, 27, and Samery Epen, 26, were arrested shortly after the incident for assault with a dangerous weapon and disturbing the peace. In addition, Francisco Epen was arrested for assault and battery. Their bail was set at \$20,000 each.

Preliminary hearing will be on Sept. 30 at 9am.

Police detective Isapen Bokuku's report states that the victim was injured, but it did not indicate the type of injury or whether he was taken to the hospital or not.

Bokuku said that Francisco Epen went to a house, yelling and shouting profanities and asking for the victim's whereabouts. He then walked down the road and saw the victim sitting down on the shoulder

of the road.

When the victim stood up, Francisco Epen allegedly grabbed him and threw him down to the ground. The suspect then allegedly got on top of him and punched him more than four times.

Samery Epen came and pulled his brother away from the victim. When the victim walked away, Francisco Epen followed him.

Samery Epen went to his house, took a baseball bat, and followed his brother. Samery Epen then allegedly hit the victim with the bat. The victim tried to block his face and body with a trash bin cover.

A woman yelled and screamed, and begged the brothers to leave their family alone as they were scaring their small children. The woman's relationship with the victim was not indicated in the report. (Ferdie de la Torre)



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PSS support staffers to get salary upgrades

» 51 replacement teachers hired as of last week
» More teaching posts to be restored for FY 2014

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan said Friday that the school system's support staffers will soon see an adjustment in their wages, with the

implementation of a salary hike starting Oct. 1, the start of fiscal year 2014.

Under the newly signed budget law, Public Law 18-18, the Public School System was appropriated \$33 million for its personnel and operation, and includes the requested salary adjustment for support employees.

Support staffers include trades and maintenance workers, school aides, administrative secretaries and assistants, school drivers and conductors, among others.

Sablan estimated Friday that over 200 personnel will benefit

from the salary hike.

The Board of Education's fiscal and personnel affairs committee headed by Herman T. Guerrero endorsed Friday the salary increases to the full board.

"These are individuals who are earning less than the federal minimum wage [\$7.50 an hour]," said Sablan, who added that despite recent passage of a bill that delays the minimum wage hike in the CNMI, PSS will go ahead with the salary adjustment its employees have been waiting for.

Sablan described this salary hike for support staff as a "defi-

nite plan" that is expected to be adopted by the full board at its next meeting.

When asked the percentage of the planned salary adjustment, Sablan disclosed that whatever the "difference" in their existing salary from the proposed \$7.50 per hour rate, that would be the basis of the individual adjustment.

PSS will also hire additional teachers under the fiscal year 2014 budget. There were about a hundred positions that were not funded during the 2013 budget, resulting in a high student ratio due to a shortage of classroom teachers.

Sablan revealed that as of this week, 51 employment contracts have been processed, mostly for teachers. These are "replacements" for teachers who resigned and retired at the end of

last school year and during the summer. Salaries for these replacements are still included in the fiscal year 2013 budget, she explained.

As of last week, PSS had about 387 classroom teachers, a number that Sablan said is still not enough to bring down the high students-to-teacher ratio in many large schools.

She expects the teachers' population to increase next month as PSS has been approved additional FTEs for teachers. She could not immediately state the number of teachers PSS will hire but said the PSS financial management team will meet and plan for the final numbers.

Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero pointed out Friday that the continued need for classroom teachers would remain a challenge for PSS. Despite the new FTEs approved for 2014 for PSS, he said these

are not enough to cover the needs of all schools.

PSS closed last school year with 10,486 students. Guerrero said he is projecting a similar or slight difference when final enrollment data come in by next week.

Cultural Heritage Exhibit peddling mainly to tourists

The bulk of sales from the 2013 Cultural Heritage Exhibit are coming from tourists who are snapping up one-of-a-kind handmade items at the lobby of the Kanoa Resort in Susupe.

Arts Council coordinator Darrell Moteisou said different kinds of bead craft are the most popular among tourists as they sell for as low as \$1.

Aside from Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and a sprinkling of Russian tourists, local tourists also buy items at the 2013 Cultural Heritage Exhibit, which has been strategically located at the Kanoa Resort lobby since opening day on Sept. 10.

The exhibit runs for a month, ending Oct. 10.

Also for sale are all sorts of hats accented by local materials, necklaces made from bojobo seeds and other indigenous materials, decorative flowers, hula skirts, and more.

The necklaces range in price from \$1 to \$10, while the hats are between \$25 and \$35. Flowers are \$1 to \$2 a pop, while the grass skirts are the most expensive of the lot and can retail as much as a few hundred dollars.

Moteisou and local artist Flowerpot Salas said that, unlike previous years, tourists have learned to haggle with artists, asking for "the best price" every chance they get.

Both also thanked some Mandarin-speaking staff of the hotel for helping them translate when dealing with tourists from China.

The Arts Council staff also was happy to report that from six local artists in Week 1 of the exhibit, the number has grown to 12 in the second week.

They include Salas, ornamental flowers and hats; Sylvia Dagit, baskets; Michael Finney, wood carving; Jill Arenovski, paper arts; Greg Bacnis, sketching; Ireneo David, dry lead painting; Melchy Billy, Carolinian beads; Paula Teregeyo, Carolinian beads; Nick Klewei, carving and painting; Vicente C. Duenas, spray painting; Martin Castro; and Priscilla Pangelinan, recycled arts.

The Arts Council has been staging the Cultural Heritage Exhibit for about 10 years and this marks the second straight year the Kanoa Resort is hosting the exhibit.

For more information about the exhibit, visit the Arts Council next to the post office on Capital Hill, call 322-9982 or 83, or email Moteisou at moteisou@gmail.com or darrellm_21@hotmail.com. (Mark Rabago)

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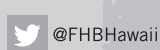
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NOTICE OF MEETING NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS' REGULAR MEETING

Date : Thursday, September 26, 2013
Time : 12:00p.m.
Place : BOR Conference Room

AGENDA

- I. **Call Meeting to Order (12:00p.m. – 12:10p.m.)**
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Review and Adoption of Agenda
 - c. Review and Adoption of Minutes
 1. August 27, 2013 – Regular Meeting
- II. **Public Comment Period: Individuals may orally testify on items on this agenda during the Public Comment Period. Written testimony is also accepted. Testifiers are requested to limit their testimony to five (5) minutes. (12:10p.m. – 12:20p.m.)**
- III. **REPORTS AND ACTION FROM STANDING COMMITTEES (12:20p.m. – 1:20p.m.)**
 - a. **Program Committee**
 1. Proposed Mission Statement (**Action Item**)
 2. Proposed Vision Statement (**Action Item**)
 3. Board Policies for Consideration – Second Reading
 - Section 4000 – Student Affairs (**Action Item**)
 - Board Policy No. 1006 – Duties of the President (**Action Item**)
 - Board Policy No. 1011 – Meetings (**Action Item**)
 4. Policies that were adopted during the August 27, 2013 Regular Meeting
 - Board Policy No. 1003 – Duties of the Officer (**Action Item**)
 - Board Policy No. 1004 – Compensation of Board Members (**Action Item**)
 - Board Policy No. 1005 – Standing Committees of the Board (**Action Item**)
 5. Proposed Revised Minimum Faculty Qualifications Procedure (**Action Item**)
 - b. **Personnel and Evaluation Committee**
 1. **Board Policies for Consideration – Second Reading**
 - Section 5000 – Personnel (**Action Item**)
 2. **President's Annual Accomplishments covers the period: October 1, 2013 through September 2013 (Action Item)**
 - c. **Fiscal and Finance Committee**
 1. FY2014 Tuition and Fees Budget (**Action Item**)
 2. Board Policies for Consideration – Second Reading
 - Section 7000 – Financial Affairs Policies (**Action Item**)
 - Section 8000 – Miscellaneous (**Action Item**)
 - d. **Adhoc Committee (Standard 4B)**
 1. Review and Approve the ACCJC Substantive Change Report (**Action Item**)
- IV. **NMC EXECUTIVE REPORTS (1:20p.m. – 2:00p.m.)**
 - a. NMC President's Report
 1. First Review of Full Show Cause Report
 - b. NMC Chief Financial Officer (Financial Report)
 - c. Legislative Updates
- V. **BOARD MEETING ASSESSMENT (2:00p.m. – 2:10p.m.)**
- VI. **EXECUTIVE SESSION (2:10p.m. – 4:50p.m.)**
(At any time during the scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents may be required to enter into executive session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential)
- VII. **BOARD PLANNING SESSION**
 - a. **Upcoming Board Activities (4:50p.m. – 5:00p.m.)**
 1. Schedule Next Regular Meeting
 2. October Meeting Agenda items

/s/ Juan T. Lizama
BOR Chairperson

Date: September 19, 2013

Inos, Calvo address issues at first Marianas Summit

"We've reached a point in the growth of our islands where it is extremely important for us to work together with Guam to strengthen the Marianas as a whole. I am very much pleased to have hosted Governor Calvo and his team for this first summit. While there is still much work ahead of us, I am deeply comforted by the collaborative spirit we've established and the strong commitment of our governments to make good things happen for our people and our islands."—CNMI Gov. Eloy S. Inos

"Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands face similar issues when it comes to our relationships with the federal government, buildup plans, and issues on infrastructure. I am grateful to the administration of the CNMI for hosting this initial summit. While there are so many issues facing the Northern Mariana Islands, there are even more opportunities. The military buildup is important to all of the Marianas, but there's still so much more to address. If we come together, we can reach our full potential."—Guam Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo

For the first time in recent his-

tory, the governors of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam held a summit to exchange ideas and brainstorm solutions together for issues facing the Marianas.

CNMI Gov. Eloy S. Inos met with Guam Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo to outline the challenges the CNMI and Guam encounter regarding the military realignment, economic development, economic exchange, and healthcare. The mayors of Tinian and Rota, the president of the Senate, and the speaker of the House also attended the summit.

Military buildup challenges

Inos and Calvo shared their experiences with the military buildup. Guam and the CNMI have been negotiating buildup plans for years, though these negotiations never were coordinated together. The CNMI and Guam face similar challenges with the military buildup. The two governors compared their respective relationship with military buildup officials.

In the CNMI, things are more complicated because the Navy, Marines, and the Air Force each have ongoing environmental

impact studies in and around the CNMI, evaluating potential locations of military testing and training sites, firing ranges, and alternative airfields. This situation can present challenges



Inos

in communicating and synchronizing solutions that meet the expectations of all parties.

In Guam, the buildup effort has evolved to one where the governor has obtained assurances from the Navy, Joint Guam Program Office, and the commander of Joint Region Marianas to help deliver a promised

"One Guam" approach. This ensures news and proposals dealing with the military buildup come from one source.

Inos acknowledged the strategies that have been successful for

Guam and DoD and hopes to explore similar solutions for the CNMI.

Federal mandates

Calvo and Inos both spoke about the federal mandates that neither Guam nor the CNMI can afford to implement on their own. An example is Obamacare,

which will bankrupt Guam and the CNMI without adequate funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Social Services—money every state is entitled to yet the territories are excluded from receiving. This is similar to the application of EITC on Guam.

Interisland industries

The Marianas Summit delegation explored the feasibility of importing cattle from the CNMI into Guam. Talks are ongoing between stakeholders of the CNMI and Guam and they were brought up during the summit meeting. CNMI ranchers want to expand business opportunities in Guam by establishing a cattle industry. The issue, though, stems from

a difference in the laws of the CNMI and Guam.

Calvo expressed his desire to see where the changes need to be made, and how we can make this profitable for the peoples of the Marianas.

Important issues

Discussions on sharing resources of the hospital, residents facing issues with Guam customs, the feasibility of a ferry service to alleviate costs, and strategies for both territories to expand their tourism markets also took place.

At this initial meeting, Calvo and Inos instructed their respective teams to work to develop policies that will address the issues and concerns that were raised. (*Office of the Governor*)

ANNOUNCEMENT

SAIPAN SWIM CLUB TRYOUTS/ REGISTRATION

SSC is pleased to announce and invite all interested swimmers for tryouts and registration for the 2013-14 swim season. Swimmers should come with swim clothes (swim goggles if you have them) and towels. Parent/guardian must be present.

Tryouts/Registration Dates:

Monday 9/23

Friday 9/27

Monday 9/30

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Location: Kan Pacific Pool, Marpi

SSC also announces that it is looking for a part-time Assistant Swim Coach. Lifeguard certification preferred. Police clearance and character references required. Send resumes via fax to 234-5749 or email Robert Torres at rttlaw@pticom.com

/s/ Robert T. Torres
SSC President

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

P.O. BOX 501370

SAIPAN, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the "Open Government Act", the Public School System State Board of Education, through their Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC), is hereby serving notice to the general public that it will hold its 2nd Quarter Meeting on Wednesday, September 25, 2013 at the Napu Room, Pacific Islands Club, San Antonio Saipan. This meeting is open to the public, interested individuals are welcome.

AGENDA

I. Preliminary Matters

- Welcome & Introductions
- Presence of a Quorum
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Minutes - April 9, 2013

II. Coordinators Report Out

- Grant Application: Approved
- FFY 2012 Annual Performance Report
 - Clarification - Approved
 - CNMI Part C Determination
- Highlights of the Program
 - Parent Training held in May 2013
 - PD Retreat in Rota
 - Professional Development Training beginning of year
 - Calendar Events

III. Old Business

- ICC By-Laws

IV. New Business

- Result Driven Accountability
 - APR 2013 - Due February 1, 2014

V. Adjournment

In compliance with the American Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting, but require accessibility such as large print or sign language interpreters must call 664-4841. Several days notice is necessary to allow organizers ample time to make necessary arrangements.

/s/ Margarita Aldan
Chairperson

/s/ Robin L. Palacios
Interim Coordinator, Early Intervention Program

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New for CNMI Residents! College in the West for Less

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Visit www.marianas.edu for more information.

This ad was made possible through the U.S. Department of Education's College Access Challenge Grant program.

Movie highlights the comic side of Saipan's *man'amko*

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

Members of the community gathered at the American Memorial Park last Friday and Saturday night for the premier of the *Man'amko Movie Project*, an hourlong movie filmed, edited, directed, and produced by the acting director of the Office on Aging, Walter Manglona.

"The film is a compilation of documentaries, music videos,

short films, and comedic skits all performed by our *man'amko*," Manglona said. "There is no studio at the Aging Center so I took it [upon] myself and produced the movie at home."

The movie, mainly in English, showcases the lives of the *man'amko* at the Aging Center and had people bursting out in laughter at the comedic music videos and skits.

One spectator described it as a "great, fun family film."

This was not the first time the *man'amko* starred in their own movie. According to Manglona, he also directed a similar movie a few years ago as the Aging program coordinator.

As for how long it took to make the production, Manglona shared that the *man'amko* started the project when he came into office a few months ago.

"The Aging Center on island provides acting, drama, and poetry classes to its clients. Instead of doing the regular live performances on stage, this time we wanted to bring it to film," he said.

Manglona thought it would

be a good idea to have the *man'amko* showcase their lives at the Aging Center with a comedic twist.

The movie later takes a more somber tone, recounting of the struggle of the Chamorros growing up during World War II.

In one segment, a female *man'amko* told about living in the caves as a little girl.

"We had to hide in the cave during most of the day, and when we thought it was safe at night, one of us would run out to get the food we could find," she said. "We heard bombs dropping and gun shots everyday."

The movie also featured some of the island's most recognizable locations and hotels in Garapan and the main segment of the show narrated a comedic folk tale about a Chamorro man named Pedro Malas.

Teddy Guiao, one of the main actors in the film and who plays the role of Pedro Malas, shared that he did not only enjoy being a part of the movie but that he was glad to see the community supporting the project.

"I would like to thank all of the people who came to see the movie," Guiao said. "I encourage all the *man'amko* in their houses to join the Aging Center."

Guiao, 81, has been a client of the Aging Center for over seven years now.

"I have much experience in comedy, reciting poetry, and acting like Superman," he said enthusiastically.

The funds raised from the two-night premiere of the *Man'amko Movie Project* will go toward some of the ongoing

projects the Aging Center is currently running, such as buying recreational equipment and computers for the *man'amko*.



THOMAS MANGLONA II

Over 50 members of the audience watch the *Man'ako Movie Project* at the American Memorial Park theater on Friday night.



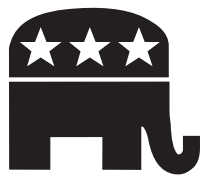
A frame grab of the film shows the *man'amko* dancing to cultural music.

THOMAS MANGLONA II



A *man'amko* "lifts" a car in a scene of the movie.

THOMAS MANGLONA II



Republican Party of the Northern Mariana Islands Association

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 502522
Saipan, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Republican Party of the Northern Mariana Islands Association (CNMI Republican Party) will be holding its General Membership Meeting as follows:

Date: Wednesday, September 25, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

- Membership Drive:** To encourage our Community to join and unify the party. All Republican members and those who are interested in becoming a member of the CNMI Republican Party are encouraged to attend this important event.
- Amendment of By-Laws:** To Board of Directors seek to amend the By-Laws to achieve transparency, inclusiveness and a fair process in the selection of candidates and to allow for a primary election.
- Miscellaneous.**

The center will be open from 4:00 p.m. for registration for new party members. If you have any question, please feel free to contact Mr. Villagomez.

/s/ Mr. Joaquin P. Villagomez
President
(670) 285-9838
CnmiGOP@gmail.com



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 - Using various electric/electronic testing equipment
 - Using personal computer hardware and Microsoft software programs
- Ability to:
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 - Trouble shoot electro-mechanical problems and reach appropriate technical solutions
 - Make logical and sound decisions in the resolution of complex mechanical/electronic equipment situations
 - Perform in a self-directed, creative and forward thinking manner
 - Work in indoor construction-like conditions and outdoors in all types of island weather conditions
 - Climb ladders, poles and if certified, towers; not afraid of heights
 - Work in dusty construction-like areas, confined spaces and heights
- Other Requirements:
 - Perform overtime when required
 - Work occasional call out and standby
 - Travel to neighboring islands

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IT&E affords equal opportunity to all applicants and employees for hire and promotion without regard to race, color, origin, gender, age, marital status, religion, veteran status, or handicap.

Masga is NMC's new Staff Senate president, 8 other elected

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Floyd Masga of the Community Development Institute of the Northern Marianas College was recently elected as this year's Staff Senate president.

The Staff Senate serves as the official representative body of the college's administrative and support staff. Primarily focused on addressing general staff issues and in making corresponding recommendations to the NMC president, the Senate is an important part of the college's participative governance structure. Part of the Staff Senate's responsibilities includes assisting in determining the need for, initiating and developing, and reviewing policies that affect the staff.

The Staff Senate has nine members: four members are elected at-large by the staff assembly, and the staff of each of the college's major divisions: Academic Programs and Services, Student Services, Administration and Resource Development, Finance and Administrative Services, and the President's Office.

Besides Masga, eight others were also elected to Staff Senate posts: Kathy Palacios as vice president; Novelyn Tenorio as secretary/treasurer; Daisie Camacho representing the president's division; Irene Tudela for student services; Lisa Hacskeylo, Nadia Camacho, and Timberly Ngewakl as at-large representatives; and Shirley Blas representing academic programs and services.

According to Masga, the college's accreditation remains the Staff Senate's top



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The NMC's new Staff Senate officers and members are, from left, Daisie Camacho, Nadia Camacho, Novelyn Tenorio (Staff Senate secretary/treasurer), Floyd Masga (Staff Senate president), Shirley Blas, Irene Tudela, and Lisa Hacskeylo. Not in photo are Kathy Palacios (Staff Senate vice president) and Timberly Ngewakl.

priority. NMC is still addressing its show-cause status and a final report is due on Oct. 15.

"One of the priorities that we are focused on is the reaffirmation of the college's accreditation. We want to ensure that we are doing everything we can to prepare for the upcoming accreditation visit next month," said Masga.

Masga succeeded Marie Coleman, who resigned from the college early this year. Like the Faculty Senate president and the president of the Associated Students of NMC, Masga will sit on the college's management team.

NMC president Dr. Sharon Y. Hart welcomed the new set of Staff Senate officers. "Congratulations to Floyd and the others on their election to the Staff Senate. The new senators all possess extensive experience and are all very much committed to NMC's mission. I look forward to working with all of them," she said.

JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST CHILDHOOD OBESITY & CANCER!



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Mayor Gilbert C. Ada Sports Complex
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Event - 8:00AM - 11:30AM



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PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE OUTBOARD MOTOR ENGINES/VEHICLE CPA-PAN-003-13

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority will sell at Public Auction, October 4th, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. two (2) units, 2006 Mercury Outboard Engines, 250HP/Four Stroke and one (1) unit 1996 Toyota Camry.

The outboard engines will be sold as a pair only and may be inspected at the CPA Seaport Office, Port of Saipan by contacting Ms. Kay Inos at telephone number 664-3550/3560.

A minimum bid for the engines is set at \$3,000.00. Open bid for the vehicle. The engines and vehicle are sold "As Is" and "Where Is" and without Warranty. The successful bidder is required to pay 20% down payment at CPA Seaport Office on acceptance of bid. Balance shall be payable at the CPA Accounting Office, Saipan International Airport within 5 calendar days from auction closing date. Failure to pay will result in the forfeiture of the down payment. Payment shall be in cash, cashier's check, or money order payable to CPA.

CPA assumes no responsibility for any costs incurred by bidder's in their preparation of the bids.

Inquiries may be directed to the Procurement Officer, Mr. Alex C. Tudela, at telephone number 237-6563.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

GOP's misguided attack on food stamps

Unable to push a \$20-billion cut in food stamps through the House in June, Republicans are now seeking to cut \$40 billion over 10 years by tightening eligibility and cutting off able-bodied adults who don't find or train for jobs. Far too many Americans are on food stamps, and parts of the GOP proposal have a patina of reasonableness. But while it may motivate some idle adults to get to work, it would also punish those who simply can't find jobs at a time when there are three applicants for every opening.

The federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program helps buy food for those who earn up to 30% more than the federal poverty level (which is \$11,490 for a single adult). The amount is modest—an average of \$5.10 per day for a single adult—and it's reduced as the beneficiary's income grows.

The program has skyrocketed in cost, however, because so many people are on it: about 47 million, or one in seven Americans. The fastest-growing group may be able-bodied adults without dependents, which increased from 1.7 million in 2007 to 4.5 million in 2011. That happened in part because of the surge in unemployment, particularly among younger adults, and in part because the government waived the requirement that such recipients lose their benefits after three months unless they work at least 20 hours a week or attend a training program.

The House proposal would reinstate that cutoff, on the dubious theory that the availability of a few dollars in food aid per day is enough to persuade people not to work. The only research offered in support is from an economist who argues that extended unemployment benefits and other safety-net programs exacerbated the downturn.

Proponents say they're simply trying to restore the work requirements that were the hallmark of the 1996 welfare reform act, but they're overlooking two key differences. While the 1996 law sought to help those in poverty overcome the barriers to employment, the House bill would let states cut off food aid without offering recipients opportunities to work, get job training or perform community service. In fact, it would give states a financial incentive to do so. And the welfare reforms were aided by a booming economy, making it easier for people with few job skills to find work. The economy today is sputtering, causing stiff competition even for low-wage, low-skill jobs.

Data from before the recession show that few people stop working after they start receiving food stamps. And states and cities have been reimposing the work requirement as their economies improve. By pushing that process ahead prematurely, the House bill would force some laid-off workers off the rolls because they can't find a job, and there are no other ways for them to satisfy the work requirement.

The real solution to the high demand for food stamps is to get the economy growing faster, not to force more Americans to go hungry. Unfortunately, the former is hard to do, and the latter seems all too easy for the House GOP.

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Do workplace wellness programs work?

Would you be willing to share with your employer how much you eat, drink, smoke or exercise? And would you be willing to make lifestyle changes in return for a break on the cost of your health insurance? The University of Minnesota offered such discounts to its workers. Actions such as completing a health questionnaire, biking to campus or setting personal fitness goals earned insurance discounts beginning at \$300. Nearly 6,000 employees accepted the bargain.

But do such programs have the intended effect of healthier employees and lower health-care costs? As more businesses embrace health incentives, these questions are becoming more urgent.

Perhaps the most widely recognized employer wellness program is that of the grocery store chain Safeway. The company's voluntary Healthy Measures program evaluates four measures of health: tobacco use, weight, blood pressure and cholesterol levels. If employees "pass" all the tests, annual premiums are reduced by up to \$780 for individuals and \$1,560 for families.

Writing in the *Wall Street Journal* in 2009, the company's chief executive, Steven A. Burd, claimed that the program helped Safeway keep health-care costs stable during a period when the cost of health care to other companies rose by 40 percent. Among those who noticed Safeway's success was President Obama, which led to the addition of "the Safeway amendment" to his health reform law. The amendment will allow employers to tie 30 percent of an employee's health-care costs to wellness programs beginning next year.

While Safeway's program remains voluntary (and available only for nonunion employees), other companies, such as CVS pharmacy and Scotts Miracle-Gro, have taken harder-line stances. CVS, for example, recently required all of its employees to submit to a medical exam or pay a \$600 fine. Scotts bans smoking, during both work and off hours, as part of its program.

So, do such initiatives work? A 2010 analysis of 36 studies that looked at corporate wellness programs suggested they can be effective. Researchers calculated that employers saved \$6 for every \$1 spent: \$3.27 saved in medical costs and an additional \$2.73 gained due to reduced absenteeism. An earlier analysis had found that such programs reduced sick leave, health plan costs, worker compensation and disability costs by about 25 percent.

But not every study has reached the same conclusion. A number of recent studies have cast doubt on both the cost savings and the sustainability of some employee wellness programs.

A series of studies, published recently in the influential journal *Health Affairs*, looked broadly at the efficacy of employer wellness programs. One study concluded that employers might save money on one aspect of health care but spend it on another. The researchers, led by an economist at the University of Arizona, looked at a wellness program at St. Louis-based BJC HealthCare, a major hospital. This company launched its program in 2005, targeting conditions such as heart disease and diabetes with a series of insurance dis-

By RAHUL K. PARIKH
Los Angeles Times

Rahul K. Parikh is a physician and writer in the San Francisco Bay Area. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



counts. The study found that fewer employees were hospitalized, which certainly saved money on hospital costs. But those savings were offset by higher amounts spent on outpatient doctor visits and prescription drugs.

In a second study, UCLA-led researchers reviewed multiple studies examining a variety of conditions targeted by employee wellness programs, including high blood pressure, smoking and obesity. The study raises questions about some basic assumptions of wellness programs. For example, the authors discovered that "a majority of studies showed no significant spending differences between people who used tobacco, had high blood pressure or cholesterol levels, or got inadequate amounts of exercise, compared with other people."

The authors also suggest that while incentives may help get employees off to a good start in making changes, sustaining them is more challenging. In the case of weight-loss programs, incentives helped participants lose weight, but in the long run, they regained it. In 19 trials looking at smoking cessation, only one had significant effects on smoking rates after six months.

For employees, perhaps the most telling red flag from the study is that their employers may be saving money not by making them healthy but rather by shifting health-care costs onto them. "Our evidence suggests that savings to employers may come from cost shifting, with the most vulnerable employees—those from lower socioeconomic strata with the most health risks—bearing higher costs that in effect subsidize their healthier colleagues," wrote the authors.

Despite these new findings, many employers remain committed to wellness programs. Writing in April for the influential policy publication the Hill, a representative from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce was enthusiastic, suggesting that "wellness programs continue to offer an effective way for employers to encourage healthy behavior without having to decrease benefits, reduce wages or close their doors altogether."

Those are worthy goals, but so far they remain goals. There may be benefits of workplace wellness initiatives that we haven't yet measured, such as improved morale and workplace camaraderie. But it's clear from the mixed bag of evidence so far that we need to keep studying what works and what doesn't in order to design programs that will fulfill the hope that they can save money and make people healthier.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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When welfare pays better!

Imagine for a moment making \$31,200 per year doing nothing. It basically pans out to \$15 an hour compared to the federal and local minimum wage of \$7.25 and \$5.225 an hour, respectively.

A study by Cato Institute says welfare in 13 states pays more than \$15 an hour or that welfare pays more than a minimum wage job in 35 states. It pays \$7,738 more per year than the federally mandated MW of \$7.25 an hour.

It does very little to create an incentive for Americans to take entry-level work and increases long-term dependency on government help.

This discovery came 17 years after the Clinton Administration, with partisan support from Congress, passed landmark welfare reform legislation that was supposed to move Americans away from entitlements and into the work force.

"However, welfare benefits continue to outpace the income that most recipients can expect to earn from an entry-level job," the study authors said. "And the balance between welfare and work may actually have grown worse in recent years."

"The disparity was even higher in nine states in which welfare pays more than the average first-year teacher's salary and in the six most-generous states, which pay more than the entry-level salary for a computer programmer.

"The 52-page study, titled 'The Work Versus Welfare Trade Off,' points out a full package of welfare benefits often exceeds take-home pay in part because benefits are tax-free.

"The study's author argues that if Congress and state legislatures are serious about reducing welfare dependence and rewarding work, they should consider strengthening welfare-to-work requirements, removing exemptions and narrowing the definition of work. This could include reducing benefit levels and tightening eligibility requirements.

"Cato senior fellow Michael Tanner, who did a similar study in 1995, told FoxNews.com on Wednesday that the problem goes beyond legislative changes and that the country needs to reform its education system to better prepare Americans for the workforce."

It would be interesting to explore what welfare pays out here

amidst reported figures that some 52 percent are underemployed. It means that you may have a job but fall under the definition of income poverty level for making \$15K per year for a single person or some \$24K annually for a family of four.

Moreover, the high cost of utilities that has shut down a lot of small businesses isn't helping those in the poverty income level threshold. Not when most consumers are cringing in grinding abject poverty, with a sense of hopelessness. As they ponder their fate, the Nancy Boys on the hill splurge with gratuitous wealth from, yes, battered taxpayers!

Forging brighter tomorrows

Is there a way out of the economic or fiscal mess we're in today? The mess is drowning and panting for oxygen in the filthy swamp of predatory policies nobody wants to review for purposes of repeal or improvement. We know it, live it, and often come close to drowning in it. But we leave the filthy swamp content that it would cleanse itself out with *mañana*.

Federal policies have done nothing but annihilate what's left of the economy, coupled with more taxes and fees from within. Do we proactively move in and do something about it or do we fall back into the grand comforts of *mañana*, hoping it disappears in thin air? The longer we procrastinate the more miserable things would be, especially at the village level.

If you decide to "Let It Be" perpetuating the grand failure of "Better Times," then start singing "Que Sera, Sera" transitioning into the suspect "Maybe This Time." The multitude is likely to reciprocate singing, "This Time NOT" for they also believe in the "Spring of Hope" where we'd roll up our sleeves to forge brighter tomorrows for posterity.

It's time to change the guard, often caught snoozing on the job. When in doubt, take another glimpse at the subterranean abject poverty the people in the villages are in as a result of persistent negligence and mediocrity. We definitely deserve better!

Ruin of trust

Your Guard Up!"

The idea behind KYGU! is to train our Guardmembers and help them attain certification in a variety of technical skills, allowing them to be competitive in a mixture of career fields. These career fields may include employment in the construction, cyber security, and the hotel and restaurant industries.

Key coalition partners already offer training programs in the skills sought by these job sectors. But the Guam Guard will continue to work closely with these institutions to adapt their training programs to the needs and interests of our deployed Guard members. The program will also attend to assisting the Guardmembers in preparing resumes and job interviews.

KYGU! is designed to run for 90 days and will start shortly after the Guardmembers return from their deployment early next year. The soldiers and airmen will attend courses at these technical training institutions to earn credits toward certifications. After this phase, Guardmembers who complete their courses will attend a job fair set up by the Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve (Guam/CNMI committee) and the Guam Department of Labor to help match the newly trained soldiers and airmen with employers.

Our intent with KYGU! is to maximize the marketability of our Guardmembers. The target for success is to place all 293

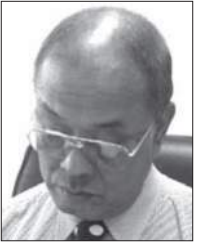
articles 1, 2, and 3 and Sections 501 and 805 that can only be modified with the consent of the U.S. government and the government of the Northern Mariana Islands is exemplary of why the Covenant was created. What I don't understand is why the governor and our delegate are in support of this bill when the irrefragable damage to local sovereignty is so obvious. There is no doubt about the numbers Rep. Ogomoro offered as this bill will literally end the political sovereignty of the local people over their own islands in less than 50 years, making local children and their children the minority in the political arena. Can't our leaders see past today?

I have told our leaders and our delegate that the fights we can't win in Congress should be taken to the United Nations, as they are our ultimate check on the federal government. The CNMI has been tied to the U.N. since its conception as a Commonwealth as it was the U.N. that made sure the local people had the right to "self-determination." So if that right is being violated we should take it to the U.N. because the CNMI has friends with a seat in the U.N. (the FSM) who can help us with lobbying our

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



There's hardly any room to escape the humiliation of the former governor's impeachment and a legacy of a plundered or ruined livelihood against our people. About the only hope was to deal with it spiritually. But there's the acknowledgment of the deafening humiliation and the personal decision to move on past the ruination of trust. He would have to answer even to the man upstairs and I'm not sure how he'd justify his arrogance and greed. He's failed Him on a grand scale too!

Strange the shift in humble paradigms turning up the knob of statist government punctuated with, "I am the rule!" His subsequent impeachment destroyed his "rule." He now awaits a set of rules from the court to determine his fate as "Obstructionist-In-Chief". You could only do so much, after which the multitude rebukes your failure with, "No mas!" Though we say so in quietude, we know he's devastated our livelihood and it is "we the people" who had to endure the subterranean abject poverty he's left behind as his abysmal trophy and halo of destruction. We will not repeat history!

When one loses his "true north" and no longer could lead with integrity and mindfulness, it's time to begin packing so you leave in the quiet of the night, heading home into permanent oblivion.

Someone once said, "One cannot do right in one department of life while he's occupied doing wrong in any other department. Life is one indivisible whole." True, right? If this isn't enough, try the following: "Core domains of character comprises of competence, sincerity, reliability and compassion. All four domains are built on the common foundation of integrity."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Jobs initiative launched

Recently, we launched an important program designed to address the unemployment situation of our deployed soldiers and airmen. It's called "Operation: Keep Your Guard Up!"

About 287 soldiers, almost half of the troops deployed with the battalion, and six airmen, were unemployed before they left for combat in support of Operation Enduring Freedom to defend our island and nation's freedom and way of life. When they return home, these Guardmembers and their families will be going through the reintegration process, a critical event in their transition home. To also carry the uncertainty and burden of looking for a job during that time would be overwhelming for them and their families.

"Operation: Keep Your Guard Up!" is a unique approach to solving this unemployment problem among our Guardmembers. Unemployment is not an issue to be solved by the Guard alone, but one that needs to be addressed through a "whole of community approach." Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo has declared his full support toward this approach in his proclamation on Sept. 17 espousing "Operation Keep

soldiers and airmen into skills training and sustainable jobs. This end-state will undoubtedly contribute toward the successful reintegration of our Guardmembers with their families, and into our island community.

I now ask you for your support and encouragement as we execute the details of this operation. Your involvement will be invaluable in the coming months leading up to the return of our heroes. Please know that with our Guam Guardmembers, you are hiring a person who is well disciplined, has a methodical work ethic, maintains physical fitness, and lives by the esteemed values of a soldier and an airman.

I am very excited about this partnership and the relationships that will develop through this unique endeavor. I am humbled by your selfless support and interest for the welfare of our deployed soldiers, airmen and their families. I promise to provide updates on the progress of this Operation as we reach certain milestones. Thank you for all you do for our soldiers, airmen and their families.

Keep Your Guard Up Guam!

Benny M. Paulino

*Major General, Guam National Guard
The Adjutant General*

A pathway to equality and citizenship

I want to thank Rep. Felicidad T. Ogomoro for reminding us of the Covenant's expectations and the expectations of the people when it comes to U.S. citizenship in regards to Section 2109 of S. 744 (long-term legal residents of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), which seeks a pathway to citizenship for more than 13,000 alien workers and other groups in the CNMI. The bill has passed the Senate and is now awaiting action by the U.S. House of Representatives. While we don't agree on some issues I am in full support of her objections to this bill being passed. I am also not against any alien worker and I am glad they are here to help but I am not ready to hand over the future political sovereignty of the CNMI to a group that was not intended to be a beneficiary. I am sure alien workers would feel the same way about losing their political control over the Philippines, which is a big part of the reason they kicked America out of the Philippines.

Her admonition to the House speaker and colleagues on Section 2109 of S. 744 violating the Covenant agreement is a very serious allegation that is supported by law. The violation of Ar-

issues that the feds don't want to address properly, especially when they are Covenant related. I love America and our federal government but, like any government, sometimes you have to make a lot of noise to get them to listen. We can't be afraid to hold the feds accountable because they are certainly making the CNMI accountable. I'm sure President Obama nor Congress would want have complaints coming out of the U.N. about America's mistreatment and destruction of the local people's political sovereignty.

The pathway should be to permanent residency for alien workers with an established limit that cannot exceed the local population. The pathway should also be about equality for all U. S. citizens and getting in line for those who want to become a U.S. citizen. The numbers in the CNMI are just too small and adding a population that outnumbers the locals is not fair to our children for whom the CNMI's political future is promised.






Ambrose M Bennett

Kagman, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.
▲85° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲87 ▼78
Palau	Showers	▲87 ▼77
Yap	Showers	▲92 ▼79
Chuuk	Showers	▲87 ▼78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲88 ▼74
Kosrae	Showers	▲88 ▼74
Majuro	Showers	▲85 ▼79

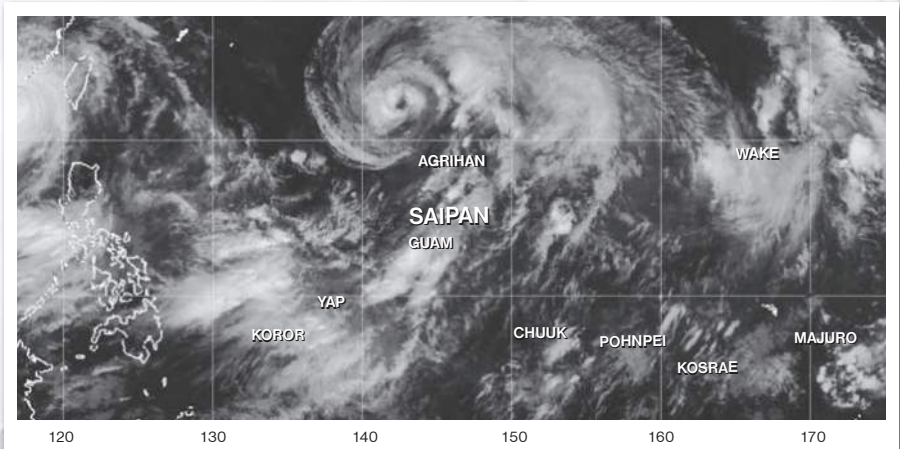
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	▲65 ▼55
Beijing	Showers	▲72 ▼55
Hong Kong	Rain	▲85 ▼81
Honolulu	Showers	▲88 ▼74
London	Showers	▲76 ▼54
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲76 ▼60
Manila	Thundershowers	▲83 ▼78
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲75 ▼53
Miami	Thundershowers	▲90 ▼77
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲70 ▼48
Osaka	Sunny	▲85 ▼69
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲74 ▼56
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲82 ▼68
Rome	Sunny	▲78 ▼62
Salem	Rain	▲60 ▼55
San Francisco	Sunny	▲67 ▼57
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲83 ▼68
Tokyo	Windy	▲77 ▼69
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲74 ▼54

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
5:04 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
11:26 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
5:22 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet
10:39 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Pabuk (19W) is centered 480 miles north-northwest of Saipan at 22N143E moving northwest at 7 mph with maximum sustained winds of 60 mph. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are found near the center between 19N and 25N from 139E to 145E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found farther east north of a line from 20N145E to 20N154E and across the Marianas within 140 miles of a line from 9N142E to 19N148E. For more information on Tropical Storm Pabuk, see bulletins issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM and by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW. Converging southwest winds well southwest of Pabuk are generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across Yap and Palau within 180 miles of a line from 13N131E to 6N140E. A weak circulation is centered between Pohnpei and Chuuk at 7N156E. A surface trough extends northeastward from the circulation to 14N170E. Scattered showers are present across southern Pohnpei state and Kosrae state to south of Kwajalein within an area bounded by a line from 9N170E to 3N149E to 3N170E back to 9N170E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers east of Majuro east of a line from 3N172E to 8N175E. Another surface trough curves northeastward from 18N161E to beyond 25N at 166E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen over Wake Island and up to within 330 miles of a line from 23N165E to 18N174E. An upper-level low is centered well northeast of Wake Island at 27N180. Scattered showers and thunderstorms are found east of Wake east of a line from 20N178E to 25N178E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:06 AM	6:13 PM
Tuesday	6:06 AM	6:12 PM
Wednesday	6:06 AM	6:11 PM
Thursday	6:06 AM	6:10 PM
Friday	6:06 AM	6:10 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:58 PM	9:09 AM
Tuesday	9:45 PM	10:01 AM
Wednesday	10:32 PM	10:52 AM
Thursday	11:21 PM	11:41 AM
Friday		12:29 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
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A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- For pictures:**
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 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
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- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) UA5070 4:35am 5:25am 2, 4, 6, 7 UA5062 4:50am 5:40am 1, 3, 5 UA5068 8:35am 9:25am Daily UA5074 11:20am 12:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5076 3:10pm 4:00pm Daily UA5078 6:55pm 7:45pm Daily UA5072 9:45pm 10:35pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN UA 5069 2:45am 3:35am 2, 4, 6, 7 UA5071 7:15am 8:05am Daily UA5073 10:00am 10:50am 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 UA5075 1:45pm 2:35pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5077 5:35pm 6:25pm Daily UA5079 8:20pm 9:10pm Daily
	GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) UA5062 2:40am 3:15am 1, 3, 5 UA5038 10:10am 10:45am 6
	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN UA5062 3:45am 4:20am 1, 3, 5 UA5038 11:15am 11:50am 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:05am 8:40am Daily DL285 6:35am 9:10am 1, 6 DL297 4:35pm 7:20pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:05pm Daily DL286 8:00pm 12:35am+1 5, 7 DL288 8:55pm 1:30am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 1, 4, 5, 7	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:05pm 1:55am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ604 3:30pm 6:55pm Daily	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ603 8:50am 2:20pm Daily OZ605 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ605 8:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) MU764 4:10am 8:00am 1, 5	BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN MU763 7:55pm 3:10am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV) SYL9950 6:40pm 1:30am+1 7	KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN SYL9949 12:45pm 5:20pm 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:20am 11:05am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:50am 11:05am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5070/191 4:35am 9:55am 6 via GUM UA5062/191 4:50am 9:55am 3 via GUM DL287/173 6:05am 10:05pm Daily via NRT UA5068/PR111 8:35am 4:45pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM UA5074/PR111 11:20am 4:45pm 1, 5, 7 via GUM UA5076/183 3:10pm 8:45pm 2, 5 via GUM UA5076/183 3:10pm 9:10pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM OZ604/703 3:30pm 10:45pm Daily via ICN	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN PR110/UA5072 7:35am 6:25pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM DL172/288 7:55am 1:30am+1 Daily via NRT UA190/5079 10:55am 9:10pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA184/5071 10:25pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/5071 11:35pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM OZ704/603 11:45pm 2:20pm+1 Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:20am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:50am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5076/147 3:10pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM OZ604/745 3:30pm 10:40pm Daily via ICN	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN OZ746/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ722/605 1:10pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:10pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA180/5071 10:45pm 8:05am+1 1, 5 via GUM UA180/5071 10:50pm 8:05am+1 3, 6 GUM
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.	
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)	

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 100	17:50	18:20	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Targeting world class lab services for the Pacific

NOUMEA, New Caledonia—Public health Laboratories in the Pacific Islands are very diverse in their structure and resources—ranging in size from one employee to up to a hundred—but they all aim to provide equitable and high-quality services to the people of the Pacific.

A public health laboratory

network called LabNet was established in Noumea in 2000 by the World Health Organization and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community to strengthen partnership and communication between regional labs to better support the Pacific Islands.

“The role of laboratories is crucial when there is an out-

break of infectious diseases like dengue fever for example,” said Dr Colin Tukuitonga, director of the Public Health Division at SPC. “Timely, accurate and reliable lab results are essential to guide the necessary interventions to reduce the impact of outbreaks on the population.”

Around 60 representatives of LabNet member countries and organizations met at SPC Headquarters in Noumea, New Caledonia, last week to review the strengths and weaknesses of the network.

“There has been considerable progress in the development of national laboratory services in recent years, but challenges remain,” said Dr Karen Nahapetyan, technical officer, Essential Medical Technologies at WHO.

“Five years ago, we didn’t perform any influenza testing at home. Now we do screening tests and send samples for confirmation at the Institute of Environmental Science and Research in New Zealand,” said Douglas Tatuava Ngaikura-Tou, laboratory manager in Cook Islands.

The meeting also looked at ways to improve Pacific Islands’ laboratory quality man-

agement systems.

“It is important to ensure steady and continuous improvement that will allow Pacific Island countries’ laboratories to offer world class service to their citizens,” added Nahapetyan.

LabNet also allows Pacific Island countries and territories

to access diagnostic services and training throughout the region that they cannot afford in-country.

LabNet is a service of the Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network that provides laboratory diagnostic methods, tools and technical support to the 22 Pacific Island country and territory members of PPHSN.

SPC serves as the focal point

of the PPHSN Coordinating Body and facilitates the secretariat of LabNet.

The current LabNet meeting includes representatives from 20 Pacific Island countries and territories and several regional and international organizations and reference laboratories. It started Sept. 17 and closed on Friday, Sept. 20, 2013. (Secretariat of the Pacific Community)

UOG gets \$1.8M for cancer research, education, outreach

The National Institutes of Health awarded an unprecedented \$1.8 million in funding to the University of Guam to support the University of Guam/University of Hawaii Cancer Center Partnership program for the period Sept. 1, 2013, to Aug. 31, 2014.

In 2009, the University of Guam was awarded an \$8.2 million five-year U-54 grant from the National Institutes of Health to support a strong national cancer program aimed at understanding the reasons behind significant cancer disparities and the impact on minority populations. Nationwide there are only eight minority institution awards. Each year, grant objectives are assessed and funding approved for the next year. September 2013 marks the fifth and final year of the cooperative agreement, which encompasses several research and outreach projects:

Research on the Influence of Areca Nut Chewing on the Oral Microbiome in Micronesia

Delivering Brief Tobacco Intervention to Chamorro and other Micronesian Youth in Guam: Effectiveness of a Social Network-based Approach to Reduce Cancer Risk

Identification and Validation of Betel Biomarkers in Saliva Health Information Seeking

Patterns Among Pacific Youth (HIPPY)

Health Information Trends and Needs in the Pacific: A Test of the Respondent-Driven Sampling Methods

Functional Assessment of Molecular Components of Areca Nut Involved in Pro-Inflammatory Mechanisms of Immune Cells

Sociocultural Factors Affecting Betel Nut Chewing among Pacific Islanders on Guam

Minority Pacific Islander Cancer Research, Student and Faculty Development

Funding support for the Guam Cancer Registry

“The overarching goal is to reduce the impact of cancer on the population in the Guam, and the region,” said Dr. Robert A. Underwood, UOG president and principal investigator of the grant. “This grant will also increase the number of minority scientists of Pacific Islander ancestry engaged in cancer research and further strengthen our research focus on cancer health disparities with particular emphasis on aspects of relevance for the people of Guam and the Pacific.”

For more information, visit the UOG Cancer Research Center website at www.uog.edu/cancerresearchcenter or call 735-3036. (UOG)



QUARTERLY GET-TOGETHER

Fiesta Resort & Spa's Food & Beverage Service and Kitchen Department hold their third quarter get-together at the Taste of India on Sept. 17, 2013, with the generous support of Pacific Trading Co., Marianas Pacific Distributors Inc, Pacific Wine & Spirits Inc., D&Q Saipan, R&J Liquor & Tobacco, IT&E Life in Motion, and Pacific Islands Club.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Procurement And Supply CNMI Government REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 2013-CDA-06-RFP Submission Date: October 9, 2013 Time: 10:00 a.m. "BROWNFIELDS MARKETING PLAN FOR CDA" Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Commonwealth Development Authority Office, 2nd Floor in Oleai, Saipan during regular business hours. The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government. /s/ MANUELA S. SABLAN Executive Director /s/ Herman S. Sablan Director, P&S

Procurement And Supply CNMI Government REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP: RFP13-CHCC-174 Submission Date: October 21, 2013 Time: 2:00 p.m. "TO REVIEW AND REVISE THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION'S (CHCC) CURRENT SALARY ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM" Copies of the RFP packet may be picked-up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours. A pre-proposal conference will be held on October 04, 2013 at 10:00 a.m., local time at the Joseph Villagomez Dialysis Building, Conference Room 3, Garapan Saipan. Any questions regarding this RFP may be sent to Myrna Boyer, CHCC HR Manager via e-mail to mymal.boyer@gmail.com no later than the close of business, October 09, 2013. Responses to questions shall be shared with all prospective proposers. The CNMI government reserves the right to reject any or all offers and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government. /s/ Esther I. Muna CHCC Interim CEO /s/ Herman S. Sablan Director, P&S

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122 THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC POST OFFICE BOX 5222 SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950 TEL: (670) 234-6547 FAX: (670) 234-9537 ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS NELLY DLC. BUMANGLAG, Plaintiff, : CIVIL ACTION : NO. 00-0275 -v- : LINDA DLC. TOVES, CONSOLATION : DLC. TOVES, ANA C. DELA CRUZ, : ANTONIO C. DELA CRUZ, RAMON : C. DELA CRUZ, JOSEPHINE P. DELA : CRUZ, and the Estate of MANUEL : T. DELA CRUZ, deceased : Defendants. SEVENTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a Judgment issued by the Court in this matter on January 26, 2009, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Tract No. 21729, situated in I-Denni, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 46,660 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2038/72, registered with the Land Registry as Document No. 7912, dated January 23, 1979. Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, October 4, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public. Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale. DATED, this 1st day of September, 2013: /s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122 THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC POST OFFICE BOX 5222 SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950 TEL: (670) 234-6547 FAX: (670) 234-9537 ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff, : CIVIL ACTION : NO. 07-0021 -v- : JOSEPH ALDAN ARRIOLA, : Defendant. NINTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on October 31, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot No. 034 L 129, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 257 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Subdivision of Lot 034 L 63, on DLS Check No. 034 L 21 recorded in the Commonwealth Recorder's Office as File No. 97-1299; and Lot 034 L 130, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 257 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described in the Subdivision of Lot 034 L 63, on DLS check No. 34 L 21, recorded in the Commonwealth Recorder's Office as File No. 97-1299. Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, October 4, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public. Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale. DATED, this 1st day of September, 2013: /s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122 THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC POST OFFICE BOX 5222 SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950 TEL: (670) 234-6547 FAX: (670) 234-9537 ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff, : CIVIL ACTION : NO. 09-0514 -v- : SUZETTE O. SASAMOTO and : FELIX T. SASAMOTO, JR., : Defendants. FIFTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on October 21, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 001 G 1508, situated in Kagman III, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 30, the original of which was recorded on May 11, 1994, as Document No. 94-1218, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office. Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, October 4, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public. Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale. DATED, this 1st day of September, 2013: /s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

LAW OFFICES OF S. JOSHUA BERGER D'TORRES BUILDING, GARAPAN P.O. Box 504340 SAIPAN, MP 96950 Phone: (670) 235-8060 Fax 235-8070 Email: joshuaberger711@hotmail.com Attorney for Plaintiff IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS CHO, SEONG JEO, Plaintiff, : CIVIL ACTION : NO. 13-0161C vs. : SUMMONS PARK JAE HYUN, HAN SANG EOK, KWON CHOON SEOB, MOON YOO SUK, AN JONG HO, PHILIP S. BERG COMPANY, LTD. and DAE DONG CORPORATION, Defendants. TO : PARK JAE HYUN, HAN SANG EOK, KWON CHOON SEOB, MOON YOO SUK, AN JONG HO, PHILIP S. BERG COMPANY, LTD. YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file with the Superior Court any Answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication, and to deliver or mail a copy of your Answer to the Law Offices of S. Joshua Berger, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Second Floor, D'Torres Building, Garapan, P. O. Box 504340, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your Answer. Your Answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. By Order of the above Court: DATED August 29, 2013. /s/ CLERK OF COURT 4th Publication

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY P. O. BOX 502149, Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 235-7147 Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • Website: www.cda.gov.mp REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS BROKERS/REALTORS This is to inform all CNMI Brokers/Realtors that we are currently accepting qualifications to represent the Commonwealth Development Authority ("CDA") in marketing of for sale properties. In order for CDA to consider your services you must submit the requirements below: 1. Valid CNMI Business License (Copy). 2. Certificate of Compliance from the Revenue and Taxation Office. 3. Firm's History – Including resume of broker, realtors, and staff members, experience, and a list of accomplishments that are relevant to the scope of work stated. 4. Work Plan for Marketing Properties. 5. References, etc. – All proposers shall include the name, address and telephone numbers of at least three (3) clients from whom Real Estate services have been performed. 6. Other information that may be helpful to the evaluation team. 7. Proposal must be submitted in one (1) original and two (2) copies. Brokers/Realtors qualification will be evaluated based on firm's history, performance and marketing plan. Qualified Brokers/Realtors will be required to sign a CDA Listing Agreement stating terms and conditions. All request for qualification (RFQs) must be submitted by Monday, October 7, 2013 at the CDA office, 2nd Floor in Oleai no later than 4:00 p.m. All RFQ received after stated deadline will not be accepted. For questions contact Aaron Wood at (670)234-6245 ext. 308 or by email at loan@cda.gov.mp

Business

Obama moves to limit power-plant carbon pollution

WASHINGTON (AP)—Linking global warming to public health, disease and extreme weather, the Obama administration pressed ahead Friday with tough requirements to limit carbon pollution from new power plants, despite protests from industry and Republicans that it would dim coal's future.

The proposal, which would set the first national limits on heat-trapping pollution from future power plants, is intended to help reshape where Americans get electricity, moving from a coal-dependent past into a future fired by cleaner sources of energy. It's also a key step

in President Barack Obama's global warming plans, because it would put in motion proposals to end what he called "the limitless dumping of carbon pollution" from all power plants.

Under the law once the Environmental Protection Agency controls carbon at new plants, it will also control carbon at existing plants—a regulation the agency said Friday it would start work on immediately to meet a June 2014 deadline.

Yet the federal government's own analysis of the new power plant proposal concludes that it would have a "negligible" impact on carbon dioxide emis-

sions, pose little to no costs for the industry and provide no additional benefits to the public by 2022. That's because it essentially locks in what was widely expected to happen anyway. Even without new federal regulations, the agency concluded that no new coal plants would have been built without carbon controls. Instead, the bulk of new power in this country would be supplied by natural gas, which already meets the standard announced Friday.

"The EPA ... does not anticipate this rule will have any impacts on the price of electricity, employment or labor markets

or the U.S. economy," the EPA wrote in its analysis.

The industry, and its allies in Congress, quickly dismissed that conclusion.

Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., said the agency was holding the coal industry to "impossible standards."

"If these regulations go into effect," he said, "American jobs will be lost, electricity prices will soar and economic uncertainty will grow."

Deck Slone, a senior vice president at Arch Coal, said that the technology was simply not available to clean coal plant emissions.

"We believe that coal plants with near-zero greenhouse gas emissions will be achievable in time, but such technology is simply not available today," he said. "The administration's proposal goes way too far, way too fast—and threatens to arrest rather than spur technology advances."

EPA administrator Gina McCarthy said in a speech Friday that rather than damage an industry, the proposed regulations would help the industry to adapt, by encouraging energy companies to develop ways to reduce carbon dioxide, the chief greenhouse gas, from burning coal.

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE

McClatchy-Tribune News Service



Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of *Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.

Give tough new job a chance

QUESTION: My new job literally makes me cry. After working as an elementary school secretary for 15 years, I was transferred to a high school because of budget cuts. The environment is so unpleasant that I am already thinking about leaving.

On the first day of school, the administrators here were not welcoming at all. When I approached them and introduced myself, I immediately saw the uncaring look on their faces. I have since concluded that they are control freaks who enjoy pointing out employees' mistakes.

I am so unhappy at this school that I would rather work in retail or cleaning. What do you think I should do?

ANSWER: Despite your disillusionment, give this job a little more time before making any irrevocable decisions. After a major life change, the negative aspects can temporarily blind you to the positives, so you don't want to jump ship prematurely.

One likely source of your discomfort is a significant shift in organizational culture. Elementary and high schools differ greatly in terms of faculty, students, rules, procedures and leadership style. This disparity undoubtedly took you by surprise and will require a period of adjustment.

You might also reconsider your assumptions about administrators. Their "uncaring" first-day demeanor may actually have reflected a preoccupation with the myriad demands of a new school year. And correcting employee errors is simply a necessary part of their job.

If you eventually decide to leave, just be sure to choose your next position carefully. After a career in education, the transition to retail or cleaning would be much more difficult than the one you are now experiencing.

Q: For several years, I have worked from home as a "remote employee" for a large corporation. I was quite happy with this arrangement until two weeks ago, when I suddenly received a disturbing email.

The company now says I must sign a form certifying that I have "a smoke detector, fire extinguisher, ergonomically suitable chair, and homeowner's insurance." I am required to "maintain a dedicated workspace in a safe manner" and give management permission to "visit my home work area."

If I refuse to comply with these conditions, my employment will be terminated. My only other option is to start working in the office, which is 40 miles away. What's going on here?

A: Perhaps the company has a new CEO, or maybe the human resources director went to a seminar. But for whatever reason, management has become concerned about the legal aspects of telecommuting.

These new requirements represent an attempt to limit the company's liability for unfortunate events that could occur in your home. If properly explained, this might not seem unreasonable, but apparently no one took the time to talk with you. Sadly, remote workers often suffer from insufficient communication.

If you enjoy working from home and want to continue, you might as well agree to these common safety measures. And if you're worried about management dropping by on a regular basis, the 80-mile round trip should eliminate that problem.



In this Aug. 22, 2006 file photo, a coal train travels in northeast Wyoming near Gillette.

AP

BlackBerry slashes jobs in face of \$1B 2Q loss

TORONTO (AP)—It was once so addictive it inspired the nickname "CrackBerry." President Barack Obama confessed to being among the millions of devotees who couldn't bear to stop tapping feverishly away on its tiny keyboard. Madonna once said she slept with hers under her pillow.

Then came the iPhone.

Users newly addicted to Facebook and photo-sharing and Angry Birds started flirting with the opposition. And as more smartphones flooded the market with their supersize Samsung screens and thousands of apps, the BlackBerry failed to keep up with the flash.

This year's launch of BlackBerry 10, its revamped operating system, and fancier new devices—the touchscreen Z10 and Q10 for keyboard loyalists—was supposed to rejuvenate the brand and lure customers. But the much-delayed phones have failed to turn the company

around. At their peak in the fall of 2009, BlackBerry's smartphones enjoyed global market share of over 20 percent, says Mike Walkley, an analyst with Canaccord Genuity. Their piece of the pie has since evaporated to just 1.5 percent.

Now the company says it will lay off 4,500 employees, or 40 percent of its global workforce, as it tries to slash costs by 50 percent and shift its focus back to competing mainly for the business customers most loyal to its brand. A week earlier than expected, BlackBerry surprised the market by reporting Friday that it lost nearly \$1 billion in the second quarter. It's booking over \$900 million in charges to write down the value of its glut of unsold smartphones.

Shares were halted pending the news. They plunged as low as \$8.01 when the stock reopened for trading, before closing down 17 percent at \$8.72.

"This is the end of the Black-

Berry as we know it," BGC analyst Colin Gillis said from New York. "This is a major pivot. They are cutting half of their employees and they're going to focus on becoming a niche player focused on the enterprise."

Gillis said he doesn't expect to see a BlackBerry advertisement on television again.

He said it might be more interesting for a prospective buyer, though, now that it has announced the restructuring. Gillis thinks it's possible that BlackBerry could survive as a much smaller player. At the end of the second quarter, the company had total cash and investments of about \$2.6 billion and no debt.

"That's probably the feedback they've been getting. They don't do all this if you have a buyer lined up," Gillis said. "Some of the actions may have been driven by feedback by potential buyers down the road. Nobody wants to come in and

buy the company and hold an all hands meeting and say, 'By the way, half of you are fired.'"

Gillis said he can't understand why BlackBerry would release the earnings late Friday, a week early. "That's abysmal," he said. "Did you really need to do it 3:15 p.m. on a Friday? Couldn't you have just waited a week or done it Monday morning?"

BlackBerry had been scheduled to release earnings next week. But the Waterloo, Ontario company surprised the market late Friday afternoon by announcing that it expects to post a staggering loss of \$950 million to \$995 million for the quarter, including a massive \$930 million to \$960 million write-down of the value of its inventory. Revenue of \$1.6 billion is only about half of the \$3 billion that analysts expected, according to FactSet. The company's expected adjusted loss of 47 cents to 51 cents per share falls far below the loss of 16 cents per share projected by Wall Street.

Nation

Pope's blunt remarks pose challenge for bishops

NEW YORK (AP)—In recent years, many American bishops have drawn a harder line with parishioners on what could be considered truly Roman Catholic, adopting a more aggressive style of correction and telling abortion rights supporters to stay away from the sacrament of Communion.

Liberal-minded Catholics derided the approach as tone-deaf. Church leaders said they had no choice given what was happening around them: growing secu-

larism, increasing acceptance of gay marriage, and a broader culture they considered more and more hostile to Christianity. They felt they were following the lead of the pontiffs who elevated them.

But in blunt terms, in an interview published Thursday in 16 Jesuit journals worldwide, the new pope, Francis called the church's focus on abortion, marriage and contraception narrow and said it was driving people away. Now, the U.S. bishops

face a challenge to rethink a strategy many considered essential for preserving the faith.

"I don't see how the pope's remarks can be interpreted in any other way than arguing that the church's rhetoric on the so-called culture war issues needs to be toned down," said John Green, a religion specialist at the University of Akron's Bliss Institute of Applied Politics. "I think his language calls for less stridency on these issues."

The leadership of the American church is composed of men who were appointed by Popes John Paul II or Benedict XVI, who made a priority of defending doctrinal orthodoxy. Over the last decade or so, the bishops have been working to reassert their moral authority, in public life and over the less obedient within their flock.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops warned Catholics that voting for abortion-rights supporters could endanger their souls. Church leaders in Minnesota, Maine and elsewhere took prominent roles in opposing legal recognition for same-sex marriage in their states. Bishops censured some theologians and prompted a Vatican-directed takeover of the largest association for American nuns by bringing complaints to Rome that the sisters strayed from church teaching and paid too little attention to abortion.

Terrence Tilley, a theologian at Fordham University, said Francis wasn't silencing discussion of abortion or gay marriage, but indicating those issues should be less central, for the sake of evangelizing. But he noted that bishops have

independence to decide how they should handle local political issues.

"Although Francis is sending a clear signal that he's not a culture warrior, that doesn't mean the bishops will follow in lock-step," Tilley said.

Few of the U.S. bishops who have commented so far on Francis' interview indicated they planned to change.

Archbishop William Lori of Baltimore, head of the bishops' religious liberty committee, said in a phone interview, "Issues do arise and we cannot always control the timing." However, he added, "Every time I make a statement about one of these things I will certainly take another look at it and ask, 'Does this really lead people back to the heart of the Gospel?'"

"That's what he's asking

us to do. I think that's a fair question."

Lori said he expected no changes in the bishops' push for broader religious exemptions from the contraception coverage rule in the Affordable Care Act. Dozens of Catholic charities and dioceses, along with evangelical colleges and others, are suing the Obama administration over the regulation. The bishops say the provision violates the religious freedom of faith-based nonprofits and for-profit employers.

Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone of San Francisco, head of the bishops' defense-of-marriage committee, said in a brief statement, "We must address key issues and if key issues are in the minds of those who are talking with us we will address them."

Tentative deal in dispute over NY heiress' will

NEW YORK (AP)—A tentative deal has been reached in a New York court fight over the will of a reclusive Montana copper mining heiress that would give more than \$30 million of her \$300 million estate to her distant relatives, a person familiar with the case said Saturday.

The breakthrough in the fight over Huguette Clark's estate comes after jury selection started in a trial pitting nearly two dozen of her half-siblings' descendants against a goddaughter, a hospital where she spent her last 20 years, a nurse, doctors, a lawyer and others.

An April 2005 will cut out her distant relatives. Another will, six weeks earlier, left them most of her money.

The tentative settlement will give the relatives about \$34.5 million after taxes under the deal, while her nurse would have to turn over \$5

million and a doll collection valued at about \$1.6 million, the person told The Associated Press. Her lawyer would get nothing.

The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity to discuss the settlement because it hasn't yet been made public. News of the tentative settlement was first reported by The New York Times and NBCNews.com.

Several of the many lawyers involved with the case declined to comment or didn't immediately return calls.

Clark owned lavish properties from New York's Fifth Avenue to the California coast but opted to spend her final two decades ensconced in a Manhattan hospital. The childless Clark died in 2011, at age 104.

Her father, U.S. Sen. William A. Clark, was one of the richest Americans of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Cop's credibility key to murder suspect's retrial

PHOENIX (AP)—On the final morning of 4-year-old Christopher Milke's life, his mother sent him off to visit Santa Claus at a Phoenix shopping mall in a triceratops sweatshirt and cowboy boots. Within hours, the little boy with the blond bangs and dark eyes was dead, shot three times in the head, his body curled in a dry desert wash on the fringe of the city.

Investigators quickly zeroed in on the mother, Debra Jean Milke, later condemned by her own family for treating Christopher with contempt. She was arrested, convicted and sentenced to death.

But nearly 24 years after the crime, the case returns to a courtroom Monday—with the verdict and the detective who cemented it effectively on trial.

A day after the killing, then-Phoenix police Detective Armando Saldate Jr. sat down alone with Milke to question her. A half-hour later, the young mother was arrested for plotting Christopher's murder based on a detailed confession, one whose veracity she and her defenders have refuted ever since.

But Saldate, a 21-year veteran of the force, proved a most convincing witness. Listening to him, jurors looked past the fact that he had ignored a directive to record the interview, failed to secure a witness to observe it and destroyed his notes. And prosecutors did not share with them, or Milke's own lawyer, a personnel record that included previous allegations of misconduct.

It came down to his hard-boiled version of the truth over hers, based on words uttered in an interrogation room turned "into a black box, leaving no objectively verifiable proof as to



This combination of undated file photos shows Debra Jean Milke, convicted for plotting the murder of her 4-year-old son, Christopher, in December 1989.

what happened inside," an appellate court opined in a scathing March decision setting aside Milke's conviction.

"No civilized system of justice should have to depend on such flimsy evidence," the court said.

This month, Milke was released on \$250,000 bond as prosecutors prepare to bring her to trial once more. But holes in the case feed doubts that linger among both those certain of her guilt and those convinced of her innocence. Confronting those questions cannot bring Christopher back, but it is forcing reexamination of the system sworn to do him justice.

After all, the detective's testimony put Debbie Milke away. Now, will troubling questions about his police work and the way it was presented by prosecutors ensure her freedom?

When Milke came home to Phoenix in the fall of 1988, she was a 25-year-old single mom searching for a job and a place to live, and trying to keep her distance from an ex-husband she despised. The two were, nevertheless, bound together by a son.

Christopher was a rambunctious kid who liked cartoons and tearing around on a Big Wheel. In fading photos, the boy flashes a winning smile. But he also showed a hyperactive streak, throwing fits those close to Milke said got under her skin. In that way, he echoed his father, Mark, an alcoholic, back then, who served time for driving under the influence with a suspended license.

"He looked like my clone," recalls Christopher's father, who has since changed his name to Arizona Milke and remains convinced of his ex-wife's guilt.

"Debbie often called him Mark by mistake, and he'd get this Kool-Aid grin on his face and say 'I'm not Mark. I'm Chris. Mark's my daddy.'"

After the couple split, Milke and Christopher stayed for a time in Colorado with family friend Dorothy Markwell, who remembers Milke as a "young mom trying to make it with her child."

"She wasn't a bad mom. She was a mom still learning," Markwell says, recalling how Milke read to Christopher each night and how she panicked when the boy wandered away and ended up at a neighbor's home.

But Markwell confirms her testimony at Milke's trial: "Yeah, she would say 'This kid looks so much like Mark I can't stand it!'" she says. "Does that mean she was wanting him murdered? No!"



In this Aug. 11, 1930, file photo, Huguette Clark, a copper magnate from Montana, poses for a photo in Reno, Nev.

Asia

6 more die as fighting drags on in Philippine city

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines (AP)—Five rebels and a 71-year-old woman were killed

Saturday as fighting dragged on in a southern Philippine city between government troops and

Muslim insurgents holding out with about 20 civilian hostages, officials said.

The woman was killed when a stray mortar shell allegedly fired by the rebels loyal to Moro

National Liberation Front leader Nur Misuari hit her house in Zamboanga city.

Military spokesman Lt. Col. Ramon Zagala said five rebels were killed and two soldiers were wounded as troops battled rebels from close range. He said 35 rebels were still holding out.

Troops are searching two neighborhoods for rebels who seized scores of civilians as human shields Sept. 9 when government forces repulsed their bid to occupy the city.

"We expect that at the soonest possible time we can corner them," Zagala said, adding that troops had recovered a lot of ground from the rebels. He did not elaborate.

He said the military had stopped using heavy weapons during the battles to avoid hitting the hostages.

The military operations have rescued more than 170 hostages, and killed or captured more than 200 rebels. Fifteen security forces and nine civilians have also died.

It's the most serious fighting in years between rebels and government forces in the predominantly Roman Catholic nation's south, the scene of a decades-old struggle for self-rule by minority Muslims.

The rebel faction involved in the fighting dropped its demand for a separate Muslim state and signed an autonomy deal with the government in 1996, but the guerrillas did not lay down their arms and later accused the government of reneging on a promise to develop long-neglected Muslim regions.

Misuari's group splintered into factions and faded into the background while a bigger rival group entered talks with the government on enlarging an autonomous Muslim region in the southern Philippines.

Misuari has not been seen since the rebel siege began, but President Benigno Aquino III said Thursday that there was growing evidence of his involvement.

Chinese politician Bo Xilai gets life sentence



In this photo released by the Jinan Intermediate People's Court, fallen politician Bo Xilai, center, is handcuffed and held by police officers as he stands at the court in Jinan, in eastern China's Shandong province Sunday, Sept. 22, 2013.

JINAN, China (AP)—A Chinese court convicted Bo Xilai of corruption Sunday and gave him a stern sentence of life in prison, capping a nearly 20-month scandal that derailed one of China's most up-and-coming politicians while exposing a murder and illicit enrichment among the country's elite.

The former Politburo member and Chongqing city party leader was convicted of bribery, embezzlement and abuse of power in a case set in motion by his wife's poisoning of a British business associate, but also widely regarded in China as a prosecution that was carried forward because the charismatic, publicity-seeking populist had lost support of top leaders.

The Jinan Intermediate People's Court also deprived Bo of political rights for life and confiscated all his personal assets, effectively ending his political career. Although Bo could appeal the verdict, he was widely expected to have little chance of success.

"It's a political death sentence for him," said Dali Yang, a political scientist at the University of Chicago. "As long as the current circumstances stay, he cannot come back."

In a marked departure from the closely choreographed proceedings of other recent political trials, Bo had launched an unusually vigorous defense while on the stand last month. He denied all charges and

blamed the corruption on others in his inner circle, thus forgoing the leniency customarily given in Chinese courts when a defendant expresses contrition.

The charges had likely been tailored to offer a lighter sentence had Bo cooperated with prosecutors, but he declined to play along, said Willy Lam, an expert on Communist Party politics at Chinese University in Hong Kong.

"He was punished for his disobedience and defiance," Lam said.

Bo also became the highest-level politician convicted for corruption under China's leader Xi Jinping, who has staked his reputation on combating graft among Com-

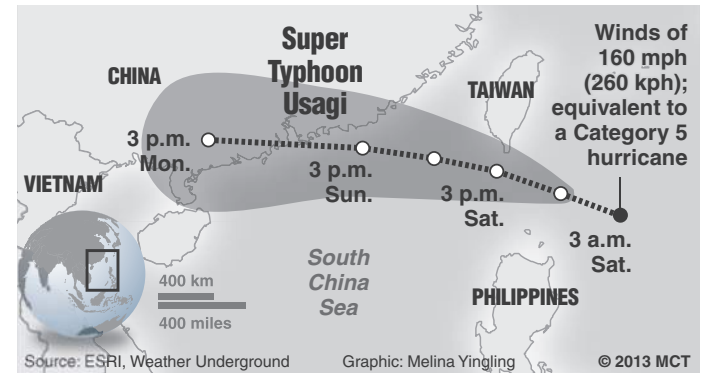
munist Party members and cleaning up their image of luxurious lifestyles that have angered the Chinese public.

"The leadership wants to send a signal that this is a serious matter," Yang said.

According to details of Sunday's proceedings released by the court in Twitter-like posts, Bo was escorted into the courtroom by marshals and stood to listen as the judge read out the lengthy verdict. He had crew-cut hair and wore a white shirt and black pants, and gave a slight smile.

The court sentenced Bo to life in prison on the bribery charges, 15 years for embezzlement and seven years for abuse of power.

Hong Kong braces for arrival of powerful typhoon



HONG KONG (AP)—The year's most powerful typhoon had Hong Kong in its crosshairs on Sunday after sweeping past the Philippines and Taiwan and pummeling island communities with torrential winds and fierce winds.

Typhoon Usagi was grinding westward and expected to make landfall close to Hong Kong late Sunday or early Monday. Forecasters had warned earlier that the storm posed a "severe threat" to the southern Chinese city.

The typhoon passed on Saturday through the Luzon Strait separating the Philippines and Taiwan, likely sparing residents in both places from the most destructive winds near its eye. In the Philippines, Usagi left at least two dead and two others missing while in Taiwan nine people were hurt by falling trees on Kinmen island.

Usagi was downgraded from a super typhoon on Saturday after sustained winds fell below 241 kilometers (150 miles) per hour.

By Sunday morning it was about 370 kilometers (230 miles) east of Hong Kong and moving west at 20 kph (12 mph), the Hong Kong Observatory

said. It said the storm would retain maximum sustained winds of 140 kph (88 mph) at 5 a.m. Monday after making landfall overnight. The observatory said it would consider raising the No. 8 storm warning signal later Sunday, after issuing the No. 3 standby signal the day before.

In adjacent Guangdong province in mainland China, the government urged people to prepare for the storm, which was forecast to slam into the manufacturing heartland of the Pearl River Delta as it passed Hong Kong.

Guangdong authorities asked more than 44,000 fishing boats to return to port while neighboring Fujian Province evacuated more than 80,000 people from flood-prone areas and deployed 50,000 disaster-relief workers, the official Xinhua news agency reported.

Cathay Pacific Airways and Dragonair said flights to and from Hong Kong International Airport would be canceled from 6 p.m. Sunday and resume Monday if conditions permit. China Southern Airlines, based in nearby Guangzhou, also said it was cancelling flights to and from Hong Kong and other places in China, Xinhua said.

NATO: 3 US troops killed in Afghan insider attack

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—An Afghan wearing a security forces uniform turned his weapon against U.S. troops Saturday, killing three in eastern Afghanistan, officials said, in another apparent attack by a member of the Afghan forces against their international allies.

The shooting took place in Gardez, capital of eastern Paktia province, Gen. Mohammad Zahir Azimi, an Afghan Defense Ministry spokesman, said. The area, near the border with Pakistan, has been a front line in fighting with the Taliban and

other militants.

The attack took place inside a base of the Afghan army in the city, according to a security official in Gardez, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to give details while the incident was still under investigation.

A U.S. Defense Department official confirmed that all three soldiers were Americans, but that no further details would be released until after their relatives had been notified. NATO said the shooting was carried out by a gunman wearing the

uniform of the Afghan National Security Forces, but it gave no further details.

Killings by uniformed Afghans of foreign soldiers and civilians rose dramatically last year, eroding confidence between the sides at a crucial turning point in the conflict. So-called insider attacks killed 62 personnel in 47 incidents last year compared to 35 killed in 21 attacks a year earlier, according to NATO.

So far in 2013, 11 foreign soldiers have been killed in seven such attacks, including Satur-

day's, according to an Associated Press count.

In some cases, militants have donned Afghan army or police uniforms to attack foreign troops, but a number have been carried out by members of Afghan security forces against their own comrades.

The attacks come as NATO and Afghan forces are in more intimate contact, with foreign troops handing over security to the Afghans and continuing to train them prior to an almost total withdrawal by the end of 2014.

World

39 dead in Kenya mall attack; hostages still held

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—Terrified shoppers huddled in back hallways and prayed they would not be found by the Islamic extremist gunmen lobbing grenades and firing assault rifles inside Nairobi's top mall Saturday. When the way appeared clear, crying mothers clutching small children and blood-splattered men sprinted out of the four-story mall.

At least 39 people were killed and more than 150 wounded in the assault, Kenya's president announced on national TV, while disclosing that his close family members were among the dead.

Foreigners were among the casualties. France's president said that two French women were killed. Two Canadians were killed, including a diplomat, said the Canadian prime minister. Four American citizens were reported injured but

not killed in the attack, the State Department said Saturday.

Early Sunday morning, 12 hours after the attack began, gunmen remained holed up inside the mall with an unknown number of hostages. President Uhuru Kenyatta called the security operation under way "delicate" and said a top priority was to safeguard hostages.

As the attack began shortly after noon Saturday, the al-Qaida-linked gunmen asked the victims they had cornered if they were Muslim: Those who answered yes were free to go, several witnesses said. The non-Muslims were not.

Somalia's Islamic extremist group al-Shabab claimed responsibility and said the attack was retribution for Kenyan forces' 2011 push into Somalia. The rebels threatened more attacks.

Al-Shabab said on its Twitter feed that Kenyan security

officials were trying to open negotiations. "There will be no negotiations whatsoever," al-Shabab tweeted.

As night fell in Kenya's capital, two contingents of army special forces troops moved inside the mall.

Police and military surrounded the huge shopping complex

as helicopters buzzed overhead. An Associated Press reporter said he saw a wounded Kenyan soldier put into an ambulance at nightfall, an indication, perhaps, of a continuing shoot-out inside.

Witnesses said at least five gunmen—including at least one woman—first attacked an outdoor cafe at Nairobi's West-

gate Mall, a shiny, new shopping center that includes Nike, Adidas and Bose stores. The mall's ownership is Israeli, and security experts have long said the structure made an attractive terrorist target.

The attack began shortly after noon with bursts of gunfire and grenades. Shoppers—expatri-

ates and affluent Kenyans—fled in any direction that might be safe: into back corners of stores, back service hallways and bank vaults. Over the next several hours, pockets of people trickled out of the mall as undercover police moved in. Some of the wounded were trundled out in shopping carts.



A rescue worker helps a child outside the Westgate Mall in Nairobi, Kenya Saturday, Sept. 21, 2013.

AP

Terror attack

Somali terror militant group al-Shabab has claimed responsibility for a deadly attack in Kenya.

A look at al-Shabab

- Means "The Youth" in Arabic; largest group among several armed Somali organizations
- Formed as a radical offshoot of the Union of Islamic Courts
- Estimated to have 7,000 to 9,000 fighters

Source: BBC, AP

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Assault on Iraq funeral, other attacks kill 96

BAGHDAD (AP)—Two suicide bombers, one in an explosives-laden car and the other on foot, struck a cluster of funeral tents packed with mourning families in a Shiite neighborhood in Baghdad, the deadliest in a string of attacks around Iraq that killed at least 96 people on Saturday.

The assaults, the latest in a months-long surge of violence, are a chilling reminder of insurgents' determination to re-ignite sectarian conflict more than a decade after the U.S.-led invasion.

Thousands of Iraqis have been killed in violent attacks in recent months—a level of bloodshed not seen since Iraq pulled back from the brink of civil war in 2008—despite appeals for restraint from Shiite and Sunni political leaders.

The attack on the funeral was one of the largest single terrorist assaults on civilians in Iraq in recent years. It happened shortly before sunset in the densely populated Shiite neighborhood of Sadr City in northeastern Baghdad.

Police said at least 72 people were killed and more than 120 were wounded in that attack.

One bomber was able to drive up near the tent before detonating his deadly payload, and another on foot blew himself up nearby, police said.

The explosions set the tents and several nearby cars on fire, sending a towering plume of thick black smoke over the city.

"I saw several charred bodies on the ground and tents on fire and also burning cars. Wounded people were screaming in pain," said Sheik Sattar al-Fartousi, one of the mourners. "The scene was horrible. The funeral turned into an inferno."

He said the first blast went off as dinner was being served in one of several tents set up for the funeral of a member of the al-Fartousi tribe. He estimated that more than 500 people were attending the event.

Civilian pickup trucks loaded with casualties and ambulances with sirens blaring were seen racing from the scene.

Hussein Abdul-Khaliq, a government employee who lives near the bomb site, said the tents were packed with mourners when the blasts went off.

He described seeing several lifeless bodies on the ground, and wounded women and chil-

dren. The clothes of several victims were soaked with blood, and firefighters had to leave the scene to refill tanker trucks with water as they struggled to contain an immense blaze, he said.

"This funeral was not a military post or a ministry building, yet it was still targeted," Abdul-Khaliq said. "This shows that no place and no one is safe in Iraq."

Less than two hours after the funeral attack, another car bomb blast struck a commercial street in the nearby Ur neighborhood, killing nine people and wounding 14, according to police.

Gunmen later shot up a shop that has been discretely selling liquor in the largely Sunni neighborhood of Azamiyah, killing four people, police said.

Earlier in the day, insurgents launched a suicide attack on a police commando headquarters in the city of Beiji, an oil refining center 250 kilometers (115 miles) north of Baghdad. Guards managed to kill one suicide bomber, but the three others were able to set off their explosive belts inside the compound, killing seven policemen and wounding 21 others, police said.

Rescuers dig in mud, rain for dead in Mexico slide

LAPINTADA, Mexico (AP)—Fourteen hours per body.

That's how long rescue crews with shovels, hydraulic equipment, anything they can muster, are averaging to find the victims of a massive landslide that took half the remote coffee-growing village of La Pintada, leaving 68 people missing.

The Mexican army's emergency response and rescue team slogged in pouring rain and several feet of mud with five rescue dogs on Saturday, recovering two women who were buried in the same area near a kindergarten, the second body under more than four feet of dirt. At least two children are believed to be nearby.

Lt. Carlos Alberto Mendoza, commander of the 16-soldier team, said it's the most daunting situation he's seen in 24 years with the Mexican army.

"They are doing unbelievable work, hours and hours for just one body," he told The Associated Press. "No matter how hard the day is, they never get tired of working."

La Pintada was the scene of the single greatest tragedy in destruction wreaked by the twin storms, Manuel and Ingrid, which simultaneously

pounded both of Mexico's coasts a week ago, spawning huge floods and landslides across a third of the country. The death toll stands at 101, not counting five federal police who died on a rescue mission Thursday when their Blackhawk helicopter crashed as they were leaving La Pintada. The wreckage wasn't found until Saturday. The toll also excludes the 68 missing.

Interior Secretary Miguel Osorio Chong told Mexican media the death toll could go as high as 200 in the coming days, nearing that of Hurricane Paulina, which hit the same Guerrero state in 1997 and caused one of Mexico's worst storm disasters.

Houses were filled to their roofs with dirt and vehicles were tossed on their sides when the hillside collapsed Monday afternoon after several days of rain brought by Tropical Storm Manuel, which along with Hurricane Ingrid gave Mexico a one-two punch.

"As of today, there is little hope now that we will find anyone alive," President Enrique Pena Nieto said after touring the devastation, adding that the landslide covered at least 40 homes.

Survivors staying at a shelter in Acapulco recounted how a tidal wave of dirt, rocks and trees exploded through the center of town, burying families in their homes and sweeping wooden houses into the bed of the swollen river that winds past the village on its way to the Pacific.

The scene by Saturday was desolate, a ghost town. One man remained to care for abandoned goats, pigs and chickens that seemed disoriented as they roamed the rescue site.

When the rains get too hard, the crew has to stop for fear of being buried, too, by another slide, Mendoza said.

By Saturday the team had been on site for 48 hours, he added. They had been ready to go two full days earlier, but bad weather conditions delayed their ability to reach the mountainous area northwest of the resort city of Acapulco.

Pena Nieto told storm survivors that La Pintada would be relocated and rebuilt in a safer location as officials responded to a wave of criticism that negligence and corruption were to blame for the vast devastation caused by two relatively weak storm systems.

Focus

How can red flags be missed like Navy shooter's?

By JACK GILLUM and ERIC
TUCKER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—The government's sprawling system of background checks and security clearances is so unreliable it's virtually impossible to adequately investigate the nearly 5 million Americans who have them and make sure they can be trusted with access to military and sensitive civilian buildings, an Associated Press review found.

Case after case has exposed problems for years, including recent instances when workers the government approved have been implicated in mass shootings, espionage and damaging disclosures of national secrets. In the latest violence, the Navy Yard gunman passed at least two background checks and kept his military security clearance despite serious red flags about violent incidents and psychological problems.

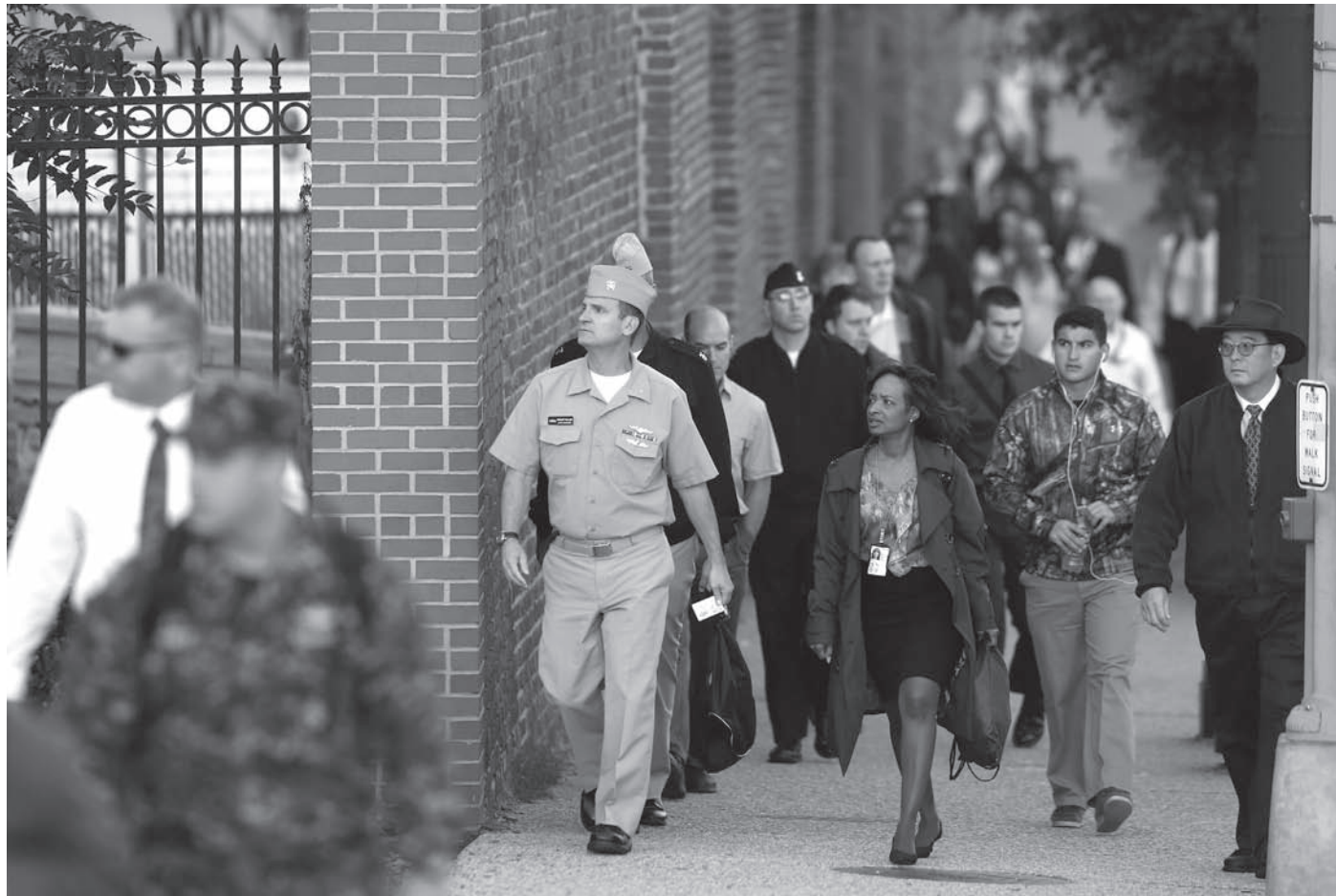
The AP's review—based on interviews, documents and other data—found the government overwhelmed with the task of investigating the lives of so many prospective employees and federal contractors and then periodically re-examining them.

The system focuses on identifying applicants who could be blackmailed or persuaded to sell national secrets, not commit acts of violence. And it relies on incomplete databases and a network of private vetting companies that earn hundreds of millions of dollars to perform checks but whose investigators are sometimes criminally prosecuted themselves for lying about background interviews that never occurred.

"It's too many people to keep track of with the resources that they have, and too many people have access to information," said Mark Riley, a Maryland lawyer who represents people who have been denied clearances or had them revoked.

The Pentagon knows there are problems. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel has ordered a sweeping review of all military security and employee screening programs. "Something went wrong," he said.

Separately, Congress has asked the inspector general at the U.S. Office of Personnel Management to investigate how a clearance was awarded to Aaron Alexis, the Navy IT contractor who killed 12 people Monday inside a Washington Navy Yard building before he was shot to death by authorities. Just weeks ago, the Navy had warned employees under its new "insider threat" program that all personnel were respon-



Military personnel and workers walk along the perimeter of the Washington Navy Yard Thursday, Sept. 19, 2013.

AP

sible for reporting suspicious activity that could lead to terrorism, espionage or "kinetic actions"—a military euphemism for violence.

"The clearance piece of this is one, I think, we very clearly have to take another look at," said Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The Navy Yard itself reopened for normal operations on Thursday, but it was hardly business as usual. Returning employees said they felt unsettled. Workers who streamed by the red brick wall of the Navy Yard in the early morning sun said it was too soon to talk about the week's violence.

FBI Director James Comey said investigators were still working through video evidence, but fresh details of the shootings were emerging.

Comey said Alexis entered the Navy Yard in a vehicle, parked in a deck across from Building 197, entered carrying a bag, went into a fourth-floor bathroom and came out carrying a Remington 870 shotgun. The shotgun was cut down at both ends—the stock sawed off and the barrel sawed off a bit—and ammunition was stowed in a cargo pocket on the outside of his pants.

Almost immediately Alexis started to shoot people on the fourth floor with no discernible pattern, Comey said. Alexis also went down to the lobby, shot a security guard and took the guard's handgun, continuing his shooting until he was cornered later by a team of officers and

killed after a sustained gunfire exchange.

Comey said there was no evidence that Alexis fired shots down into the atrium despite initial accounts from witnesses at the scene.

"It appears to me that he was wandering the halls and hunting for people to shoot," he said.

Alexis had worked for a Florida-based IT consulting firm called The Experts. He had been refreshing Pentagon computer systems, holding a military security clearance that would have expired five years from now.

The same company that investigated Alexis for his security clearance also did a 2011 follow-up investigation of Edward Snowden, the former NSA systems analyst who leaked documents about the National Security Agency. The company, USIS, said in a statement Thursday it conducted Alexis' background check in 2007 for the Office of Personnel Management but that it couldn't elaborate.

USIS is under a federal investigation into possible criminal violations involving its oversight of background checks, the AP reported in July. USIS dominates the background check industry, taking in \$195 million in government payments last year and more than \$215 million this year.

Alexis' employer said it had had no personnel problems with him and two separate background checks revealed only a traffic violation. But there were trouble signs below the surface.

Public records databases used in those kinds of searches can be spotty repositories of arrest records, court dockets and other information.

"The only thing that the security-clearance process is intended to protect is the security of the United States," said Shlomo Katz, a government contracts lawyer who has been issued a clearance himself and is an expert on the process. "The system is not designed to protect the lives of our co-workers, and therefore I don't view it as a failure of the system."

Alexis' employer—and possibly the government—missed how, in September 2010, Alexis' neighbor called police in Fort Worth, Texas, after she said she was nearly struck by a bullet shot from his downstairs apartment. When police confronted Alexis about the shooting, he said he was cleaning his gun when it accidentally discharged. Alexis was arrested on suspicion of discharging a firearm within city limits.

The checks also missed how, six years earlier, Seattle police arrested Alexis for shooting the tires of another man's vehicle in what he later described as an angry "blackout." Police said two construction workers reported seeing a man, later identified as Alexis, walk out of the home next to their work-site, pull a gun from his waistband and fire three shots into the rear tires of their car before he walked back home.

No charges were filed in either the Fort Worth or Seattle incidents.

The Experts said it had most recently used a company called First Advantage of Alpharetta, Ga., to search Alexis' past for criminal involvement. A First Advantage spokeswoman said Thursday The Experts asked only for a typical employment background check that only returns information on convictions, not merely arrests.

A search for any criminal history on a similar public records service, LexisNexis, also produced no arrest records. LexisNexis says it has coverage gaps for certain public records, including arrest reports for King County, Wash., and Tarrant County, Texas—both places where Alexis had firearm run-ins. Some local governments won't sell their data, but those arrest records would still be available from municipalities individually in what can be a tedious process.

Even with complete data, the databases probably would have missed a Newport, R.I., police report last month, which didn't list Alexis as a suspect in any wrongdoing but instead reported him complaining about voices wanting to harm him. He couldn't sleep, reports stated, and believed people were following him and using a microwave machine to send vibrations to his body. He called police and told them he couldn't get away from the voices.

On Aug. 7, local police did alert officials at the Newport Naval Station about being called to the naval defense contractor's hotel room. But officers didn't hear from them again.

In 2005, the Pentagon's security clearance investigations moved to the Office of Personnel Management, the government's human resources service. A Senate Homeland Security subcommittee said this summer that such a move decreased backlogs and led to more-timely responses for checks, but it criticized "insufficient information-sharing or reciprocity between government agencies, limited information technology capabilities and a lack of appropriate oversight over the process and those conducting investigations."

The gunman's access to the Navy Yard presented another question: How Alexis could use a security credential, called a "Common Access Card," that allowed him in and out. Issued under Defense Department authorization, the card is commonly used by both military personnel and eligible contract employees, and 3.5 million were in circulation in 2008, according to government figures.

Private contractors working on military bases need national security clearances to obtain access cards. Congressional officials involved in ongoing investigations about clearance problems said they were examining whether CAC credentials are awarded too easily and recipients not rechecked frequently enough.

Background checks can also be undermined by fraud. Federal prosecutors in Washington in the past several years have secured convictions against 16 background investigators for falsified checks involving lying about interviews that never occurred or claiming that they had reviewed records they hadn't. In Virginia this month, a man was sentenced to eight months in prison for coaching federal job applicants and others how to beat lie detector tests.

Katz, the government contracts lawyer, said he said he wouldn't have hired Alexis knowing all the information about him available now, mostly because his arrest for shooting a stranger's car tires suggest a worker who could harm fellow employees or be dangerous in the workplace. But that decision itself would be a judgment call.

"To lay the blame at the foot of the security clearance apparatus and to think that by changing some security clearance laws we're going to fix the problem is ridiculous," he said. "We have to look at the whole picture of what choices have we as a society made about gun laws, what choices have we as a society made about mental health."

Health & Fitness

Rising Alzheimer's creates strain on caregivers

WASHINGTON (AP)—David Hilfiker knows what's coming. He was diagnosed with Alzheimer's so early that he's had time to tell his family what he wants to happen once forgetfulness turns incapacitating.

"When it's time to put me in an institution, don't have me at home and destroy your own life," said the retired physician, who is still well enough that he blogs about the insidious progress of the disease. "Watching the Lights Go Out," it's titled.

Nearly half of all seniors who need some form of long-term care—from help at home to full-time care in a facility—have dementia, the World Alzheimer Report said Thursday. It's a staggering problem as the global population ages, placing enormous strain on families who provide the bulk of that care at least early on, and on national economies alike.

Indeed, cognitive impairment is the strongest predictor of who

will move into a care facility within the next two years, 7.5 times more likely than people with cancer, heart disease or other chronic ailments of older adults, the report found.

"It's astonishing," said Marc Wortmann, executive director of Alzheimer's Disease International, which commissioned the report and focused on the problems of caregiving. "What many countries try to do is keep people away from care homes because they say that's cheaper. Yes it's cheaper for the government or the health system, but it's not always the best solution."

And dropping birth rates mean there are fewer children in families to take care of aging parents, too, said Michael Hodin of the Global Coalition on Aging.

"Very shortly there will be more of us over 60 than under 15," he noted.

Today, more than 35 million

people worldwide, including 5 million in the U.S., are estimated to have Alzheimer's. Barring a medical breakthrough, those numbers are expected to more than double by 2050.

This week, the U.S. National Institutes of Health announced \$45 million in new Alzheimer's research, with most of the money focused on finding ways to prevent or at least delay the devastating disease. The Obama administration had hoped to invest \$100 million in new Alzheimer's research this year, a move blocked by the budget cuts known as the sequester. Overall, the nation has been investing about \$400 million a year in Alzheimer's research.

But the disease's financial toll is \$200 billion a year in the U.S. alone, a tab expected to pass \$1 trillion by 2050 in medical and nursing home expenditures—not counting unpaid family caregiving. The world report puts the global

cost at \$604 billion.

Thursday, families affected by Alzheimer's and aging advocates said it's time for a global push to end the brain disease, just like the world's govern-

ments and researchers came together to turn the AIDS virus from a death sentence into a chronic disease.

"We need a war on Alzheimer's," said Sandy Halperin, 63,

of Tallahassee, Fla., who was diagnosed with early-stage Alzheimer's three years ago. He now finds himself stumbling for words, but still visits lawmakers to urge more funding.



Retired physician David Hilfiker, of Washington, leaves the National Press Club on his bike after talking about his life with Alzheimer's in Washington, Thursday, Sept. 19, 2013.

New test aims to better detect viral infections

WASHINGTON (AP)—It happens too often: A doctor isn't sure what's causing someone's feverish illness but prescribes antibiotics just in case, drugs that don't work if a virus is the real culprit.

Now Duke University researchers are developing a blood test to more easily tell when a respiratory illness is due to a virus and not a bacterial infection, hoping to cut the dangerous overuse of antibiotics and speed the right diagnosis.

It works by taking a fingerprint of your immune system—how its genes are revving up to fight the bug. That's very different from how infections are diagnosed today. And if the experimental test pans out, it also promises to help doctors track

brand-new threats, like the next flu pandemic or that mysterious MERS virus that has erupted in the Middle East.

That viral "signature" could be quite powerful, and may be a game-changer," said Dr. Geoffrey Ginsburg, Duke's genomic medicine chief. He leads the team that on Wednesday reported that a study involving 102 people provided early evidence that the test can work.

Today, when symptoms alone aren't enough for diagnosis, a doctor's suspicion guides what tests are performed—tests that work by hunting for evidence of a specific pathogen. Fever and cough? If it's flu season, you might be tested for the flu virus. An awful sore throat? Chances are you'll get checked for strep

bacteria. A negative test can leave the doctor wondering what germ to check for next, or whether to make a best guess.

Moreover, rapid in-the-office tests aren't always accurate and can miss infections. So patients may have blood or other samples sent to labs to try to grow any lurking bacteria and tell if it's to blame, additional testing that can take days.

"This is something we struggle with every day," said Dr. Octavio Ramilo, infectious disease chief at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, who wasn't involved in the new study. Particularly with children, a respiratory virus and a bacterial infection "in the beginning look completely alike," he added.

Extreme binge drinking not uncommon in high school

CHICAGO (AP)—Almost 1 in 10 U.S. high school seniors have engaged in recent extreme binge drinking—downing at least 10 drinks at a rate that barely budged over six years, according to a government-funded report.

Less severe binge drinking, consuming five or more drinks in a row, has mostly declined in recent years among teens. But for high school seniors, the 2011 rate for 10 drinks in a row—9.6 percent—was down only slightly from 2005.

The most extreme level—15 or more drinks in a row within the past two weeks—didn't change from 2005 to 2011. Almost 6 percent of high school seniors reported recently drinking that amount.

The number of seniors engag-

ing in the most extreme drinking "is really concerning because they're most at risk for the really severe consequences," including reckless driving, car accidents and alcohol poisoning, said lead researcher Megan Patrick of the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research.

Extreme binge drinking may be a behavior that's "more entrenched" among some teens, and thus harder to change, Patrick said.

The new report is an analysis of survey results that the university does for the National Institute on Drug Abuse. It's based on classroom questionnaires given to more than 16,000 high school seniors; a question on extreme binge drinking was added in 2005.

Whites and males were the most likely to engage in all levels of binge drinking, the report found. Students with more educated parents had higher rates of binge drinking than other kids, but lower rates of extreme binge drinking.

Extreme binge drinking was most common in rural areas and the Midwest and least common in the West.

The report was published online Monday in JAMA Pediatrics.

Young adults generally have higher levels of extreme drinking; a 2012 survey by the same group found that more than 1 in 4 people aged 19 to 30 had recently consumed at least 10 drinks in a row and more than 1 in 10 had at least 15 drinks in a row.

Personal Trainer

Dress properly for court

Tennis and other racket sports put heavy stresses on certain parts of a player's feet, and it's essential to wear the right shoes on the court.

Stiff, well-padded heel counter

(back and sides of heel) supports and protects ankle

Thick padding under heel
absorbs force rather than sending it into ankle and foot bones

Sturdy sides
stabilize foot during side-to-side moves

Source: Ontario Podiatric Medical Association

Ways to protect your feet

- Replace shoes when their stiff parts start to loosen
- Do not expect patches or repairs to prolong a shoe's life
- Never play in poorly fitting or borrowed shoes



Toe box with plenty of room
prevents blisters

Firm padding under ball of foot
protects bones under the greatest pressure

Toe reinforcement
protects foot and reduces wear when toe drags as you serve



© 2013 MCT
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas and Paul Trap

Life & Style

Harmon just part of the gang on unstoppable 'NCIS'

NEW YORK (AP)—Life comes with few chances to witness a fundamental law being turned on its head.

But last season 18.5 million viewers did just that every week, tuning to "NCIS" to certify it as one of TV's highest-rated shows and, even more impressively, make it a series whose audience after 10 seasons has expanded, not shriveled, with age.

"NCIS," which averaged 11.8 million viewers its first season back in 2003-04, grew by more than a million viewers last year alone.

This, of course, contradicts TV's natural order. "NCIS" (which starts its 11th season Tuesday at 8 p.m. EDT on CBS) seems to have a long-term lease on TV's fountain of youth.

It doesn't hurt that "NCIS" maintains an absorbing, go-down-easy recipe of drama, character and humor that no other show is able to match.

"We've been successful so far," says series star Mark Harmon with some understatement, "and we keep finding ways to grow it."

But don't go laying too much credit for that growth, or any other metric of success, at Harmon's feet.

He's the star, of course, playing tormented but intrepid Leroy Jethro Gibbs, Special Agent in Charge of the military's Major Case Response Team.

Harmon is surrounded by a sturdy troupe of actors including fellow charter cast members Michael Weatherly (NCIS Special Agent Anthony DiNozzo), David McCallum (Dr. Donald "Ducky" Mallard) and the wildly popular Pauley Perrette (as Goth lab rat Abby Sciuto).

"There's four of us who were there in the beginning, plus pretty much 90 percent of our crew," says Harmon, citing the stability of the show's production team as one key reason for its continued robustness.

Granted, there have been comings and goings. This summer, "NCIS" fans were shocked to learn that Cote de Pablo was exiting after eight seasons. The new season's

first two episodes give her character, Special Agent Ziva David, a dramatic send-off.

"We wish Cote well," says Harmon. "But for those of us still here, it's all about moving on: 'This is what we've got, and we're going to find a way to make it even better.'"

"I'm not trying to shuck off our success, because it's all earned, every bit of it. By a lot of people."

Thus does Harmon reaffirm his one-for-all-and-all-for-one manifesto.

"I'm not the big dog," he says flatly. "I might be a dog. But there's a lot of dogs."

Now 62, Harmon is an unlikely TV superstar. His manner during a recent interview is friendly but crisp, soft-spoken and firmly self-effacing. With his pretty-boy looks matured in middle age, this is the all-grown-up version of the star quarterback at UCLA who, after brief turns in law school, advertising and selling shoes, set his sights anew on acting and made good.

He forged a solid career in a succession of TV series, including "Reasonable Doubts," "Chicago Hope" and "St. Elsewhere," where, nearly 30 years ago, he

played the first prime-time hero to contract, and die of, AIDS.

His films include "The Presidio," "Natural Born Killers" and "Freaky Friday."

Still, the man crowned as "the greatest actor who ever lived" by "Family Guy" cartoon aesthete Peter Griffin never reached the top tier of showbiz, even as he weathered accolades like People magazine's "Sexiest Man Alive" in 1986. And, as with most actors, he has also suffered setbacks, such as his ABC private-eye drama "Charlie Grace," which lasted little more than a month in 1995.

So when "NCIS" arrived as a spinoff of the durable but non-flashy military drama "JAG," there was no particular reason to expect fireworks from this new venture.

"We were able to keep it afloat a couple of years because we weren't good enough to get all the attention and we weren't bad enough to get canceled," says Harmon with a laugh. "And the biggest thing: We shoot in Santa Clarita," which sits 30 miles comfortably removed from Los Angeles. "Nobody from the network

wanted to drive out there!" Network execs stayed out of their hair.

"NCIS" still shoots at Santa Clarita Studios, which means a lengthy commute for Harmon and many of his cast mates.

That's fine with him. Ten years and running on "NCIS" isn't about to drive him somewhere else.

"I've been acting long enough to appreciate the kind of opportunity this show is," he says. "It's a machine, but it's a machine that's forever changing, and if we're able to maintain what we have here, I don't see any reason why it can't continue for a while."

How long? Harmon answers by explaining what it is about "NCIS" he savors the most.

"I love the drive to work," he says. "I love getting up and looking forward to where I'm going."

If steering his '91 Bimmer northward from his Santa Monica home each dawn ever starts to feel punishing, "I think that will be the time to hang it up," he declares. "But as long as we're finding ways to do new stories and grow these characters, I'll be there."

Actor deserves individual Emmy tribute, son says

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The exclusion of Jack Klugman from an Emmy Awards tribute that includes Cory Monteith is an insult to the memory of the late TV veteran and three-time Emmy winner who starred in "The Odd Couple" and "Quincy M.E.," Klugman's son says.

"I think it's criminal," said Adam Klugman in an interview with The Associated Press. "My dad was at the inception of television and helped build it in the early days."

Ceremony producers announced this week that five individual salutes would be included on Sunday night's Emmy show in addition to the traditional "in memoriam" segment that groups together industry members who died in the past year.

Besides Monteith, the "Glee" star who died in July of a heroin and drug overdose, those to be

honored include "The Sopranos" star James Gandolfini; Jean Stapleton of "All in the Family"; comedian and actor Jonathan Winters; and "Family Ties" producer Gary David Goldberg.

Monteith, who was 31 when he died, is by far the youngest of the group. All the others are Emmy winners, while he had yet to be nominated in his abbreviated career.

Emmy nominees who died last year and won't be accorded separate tributes include Larry Hagman of "Dallas" and Charles Durning of "Evening Shade."

Hagman, Durning and Klugman will

be included in the group remembrance, an academy spokesman said Friday. The ceremony at the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles airs at 8 p.m. EDT Sunday on CBS.

"It's an insult and it really seems typical of this youth-centric culture that has an extremely short attention span and panders to only a very narrow demographic" of young adults, Adam Klugman said.

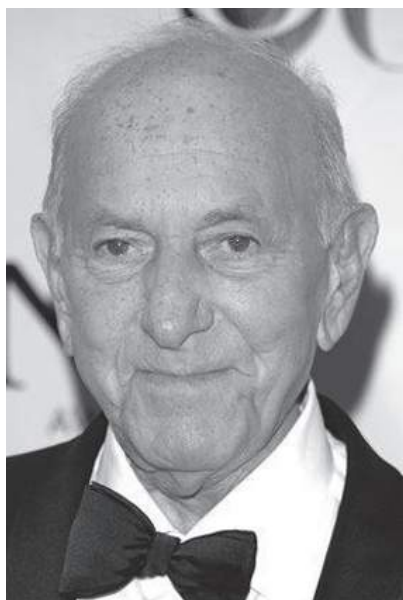
In a statement, Emmy executive producer Ken Ehrlich explained his reasoning—a position that awards organizers often find themselves in when stars are absent from memorial segments.

"To a younger generation, Cory Monteith's portrayal of Finn Hudson (on 'Glee') was highly admired, and the producers felt that he should be included along

with the four other individuals we have singled out," Ehrlich said.

For Adam Klugman, it's an indefensible move. His father's career spanned more than five decades and included lead-actor Emmys for acclaimed series "The Defenders" in 1961 and "The Odd Couple" in 1971 and '73. He died last December at age 90.

"What about the people who should be introduced to somebody like my father?" he said. "I don't mean to say anything disparaging about Cory, but he was a kid who had won no Emmys and it was a self-induced tragedy."



Klugman

Author Harper Lee, hometown museum at odds

MONTGOMERY, Alabama (AP)—"To Kill a Mockingbird" author Harper Lee is at odds with a museum in her Alabama hometown over use of the words in the title of her Pulitzer Prize-winning novel.

Lee is seeking a trademark for the words when they are used on clothing. The Monroe County Heritage Museum in Monroeville is opposing the application, contending the sale of souvenirs with the words is vital to its continued operation.

Lee's New York attorney, Robert Clarida, said the 87-year-old author, who lives in Monroeville, has never received a penny from the museum's sale of T-shirts, caps and other souvenirs. "They want to continue selling the merchandise without Ms. Lee getting any money," he said Friday.

Museum Director Stephanie Rogers said Lee's book drives tourism in the rural south Alabama county. She said the museum has always been supportive of Lee, and she has never said anything about the souvenirs when visiting the museum.

"I feel like all we do is honor her here," she said.

The nonprofit organization operates several attractions in Monroeville and uses "To Kill a Mockingbird" for its website address.

The organization's attractions include the old county courthouse housing the courtroom that served as the model for the movie "To Kill a Mockingbird." The courthouse draws 25,000 to 30,000 visitors annually and features a display that tells Lee's story in her own words. In April and May, it will present its 25th annual production of the play, "To Kill a Mockingbird."

Rogers said the museum pays royalties to produce the play, but it has never paid for selling the souvenirs. She said tourists want a memento of their visit, and the proceeds are the key to museum's continued operation and its educational programs.

Museum attorney Matt Goforth said Friday, "We are hopeful this legal dispute, originally initiated by Ms. Lee's attorneys, will not damage our relationship."

Lee's attorney said people occasionally show up online up selling "To Kill a Mockingbird" merchandise, but a letter to cease usually takes care of that. He said the trademark application is aimed at the museum because of its continuous sale of merchandise.

That merchandise is remaining on sale while the trademark application is pending. Attorneys on both sides said the timeline for legal arguments set by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office means the case could take a year or more.



In this Aug. 20, 2007 file photo, author Harper Lee smiles during a ceremony honoring the four new members of the Alabama Academy of Honor at the Capitol in Montgomery, Ala.

Last week, Lee settled the lawsuit she filed to secure the copyright to her classic novel.

A federal judge in New York City approved the order dismissing the case against Samuel L. Pinkus, the son-in-law of Lee's former literary agent, and companies he allegedly created. Two other defendants had been dropped from the suit a week earlier.

Lee's trademark application was first reported by The Monroe Journal, the newspaper in Monroeville.

Miley Cyrus performs at iHeartRadio music festival

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Miley Cyrus can't stop.

The pop singer was a crowd favorite at the iHeartRadio music festival day event Saturday in Las Vegas. Before she hit the stage, the crowd of a few hundred chanted: "Miley! Miley! Miley!"

The 20-year-old emerged on-stage in all white, wearing a tight corset and high waisted shorts that revealed some of her backside.

Her four-song set opened with the anthemic "We Can't Stop," where people onstage were dressed in flower, mushroom and rainbow costumes. She gyrated and slapped a dwarf-sized dancer's butt onstage. She followed the colorful performance with "Party In the USA."

But it was her emotional rendition of "Wrecking Ball" that was her set's highlight. Cyrus' mascara was running as she left the stage after the song and the performance comes days after she announced she was no longer engaged to actor Liam Hemsworth. She thanked the audience for helping the song top the Billboard Hot 100 chart this week.

"I couldn't have done it without all you guys," she said.



Miley Cyrus performs at iHeartRadio Music Village, Saturday, Sept. 21, 2013 in Las Vegas.

Cyrus broke a record with the debut of the song's provocative video, which features her in the nude. It became the fastest music video to reach 100 million views on VEVO.

The wild child singer said she knows "things I'm doing that's getting me into trouble and it's just me doing what my heart and soul is telling me what to do."

Everything she's done is "inspired by the music," she said.

Cyrus, who will release her new album "Bangerz" next month, also sang a new song called "Look at What They've Done to My Song." The guitar tune featured lyrics like "They think I'm half insane" and "I wish I could find a book to live in."

Cyrus has been added as one of the main performers for the second night at iHeartRadio's festival at the MGM Grand Arena, joining a list that includes Justin Timberlake, Bruno Mars, Paul McCartney and Drake. Elton John, Katy Perry and Chris Brown performed Friday.

Saturday's day line-up also featured Jason Derulo, Avril Lavigne, The Wanted, The Band Perry and others.

Journey caps first day of Music Midtown in Atlanta

ATLANTA (AP)—The rock band Journey capped the first day of the third annual Music Midtown Festival with a set that lasted nearly two hours, performing hits such as "Don't Stop Believing" and "Any Way You Want It."

"This is the best time we've had in the years," lead singer Arnel Pineda said to a screaming and packed crowd on Friday night at the Piedmont Park in downtown Atlanta. "Thank you for every-

thing. Thank you."

Rapper 2 Chainz was also a headline performer earlier in the day of the two-day festival. He put on an energetic set that featured his hit songs such as "Birthday Song," "I'm Different" and "Feds Watching."

"This is my hometown, so welcome to the Music Midtown," the rapper said.

Shortly after 2 Chainz's performance, the crowd shifted from the Great Southeastern Music Hall

to the neighboring Electric Ballroom stage to catch alternative rock group Phoenix. The four-man band from France performed a number of hits from "1901" to "Entertainment."

Pineda leaped off the stage during Journey's performance and gave fans in the front row high 5s. Neal Schon, the guitarist and only original member of the five-man band, played the Star-Spangled Banner during his solo set as the

American flag went on display behind him while the rest of his band mates looked on.

North Mississippi Allstars opened the festival Friday. The Mowgli's, Cake, Drivin N Cryin and Jane's Addiction also performed.

Thirteen more acts will perform Saturday, including Red Hot Chili Peppers, Kendrick Lamar, Imagine Dragons, Weezer, Yeah Yeah Yeahs and Capital Cities.

Richard Sarafian dies at 83

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Richard Sarafian, an influential film director whose 1971 countercultural car-chase thriller "Vanishing Point" brought him a decades-long cult following, has died in Southern California, his son said Saturday night.

Richard Sarafian died at a Santa Monica hospital on Wednesday of pneumonia contracted while he was recovering from a fall, son Deran Sarafian told The Associated Press. He was 83.

Sarafian worked primarily in television in his early career, directing episodes of 60s shows like "Gunsmoke," "I Spy," and "77 Sunset Strip."

He also directed 1963's "Living Doll" episode of "The Twilight Zone," a chilling tale whose demonic main character Talky Tina terrified children for decades. That included his own kids. Deran Sarafian said as a boy he thought the episode was "the most horrible thing I've ever seen" before learning his father had made it.

But Richard Sarafian was best known by far for "Vanishing Point," a dark story of a drug-fueled auto pursuit through the Nevada desert

brought on by a bet between a Vietnam vet and his drug dealer.

"It was about speed" in both the drug and automotive senses, Deran Sarafian said. "About what it really meant."

The film and director had a major influence on the generation of maverick moviemakers and actors, often referred to as "Easy Riders, Raging Bulls,"

who would come to dominate Hollywood in the 1970s.

"He's considered one of the original Raging Bulls, that's why Warren Beatty and Sean Penn and people like that absolutely adore him," Deran Sarafian said.

Beatty was a particularly devoted fan, casting Sarafian as an actor in two of his own 1990s films, "Bugsy" and "Bulworth."

And he had nearly as big an influence on later directors like Quentin Tarantino, who gave him a "special thanks" credit at the end of one of his films.

Sarafian was close friends with "MASH" director Robert Altman, and twice married Altman's sister Helen Joan Altman, who died in 2011.

He's survived by four sons and a daughter.



Sarafian

TV's leading ladies celebrate before Emmys

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Television's leading ladies stepped out Friday night to celebrate at Variety and Women in Film's annual Emmys soiree.

Emmys parties like this one—a fancy affair at an Italian restaurant in Beverly Hills—impress Jane Lynch.

"They are totally glamorous," the "Glee" star said on the white carpet outside. "Everybody is dressed up and wearing their finest. It's kind of cool to look around and see people you admired on television and maybe who you never thought you'd get to meet in your lifetime."

Actresses like Roma Downey, Michelle Trachtenberg, and Laura Prepon were there too, mingling

Disney, Bruckheimer to end longtime partnership

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Walt Disney Co. has announced that it would not renew its first-look deal with producer Jerry Bruckheimer.

The 69-year-old Bruckheimer produced such hits for the studio as "Pirates of the Caribbean," "National Treasure," "Armageddon," "Con Air" and "The Rock."

The company said it will continue to focus on its branded properties from Disney, Pixar,

under clear glass ball decorations that hung from the ceiling and white orchids on side tables. The event honors the female nominees for Sunday night's Emmy awards.

Sarah Hyland of "Modern Family" lamented that Emmy week parties in Los Angeles are crowded.

"It's very hard to move," she said, wearing a red lace dress.

And Prepon, wearing white high heels with intricate black detailing, talked about her Netflix show "Orange Is the New Black," promising surprises in the second season. The series tells the story of women serving time in federal prison.

Prepon even shared tricks of the trade.

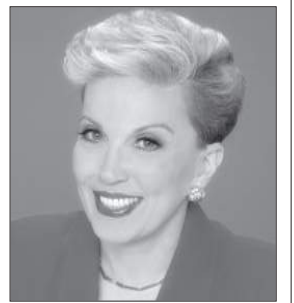
Marvel and Lucasfilm.

Disney said it will keep working with Bruckheimer on the fifth installment of "Pirates of the Caribbean." The release date for the fifth movie in the series was removed from Disney's distribution schedule earlier this month. It was originally scheduled to launch July 10, 2015.

The move comes after Bruckheimer's "The Lone Ranger" failed at the box office this summer.

Daughter of murdered mom should learn the truth in time

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: My granddaughter was murdered by her boyfriend. They had an 18-month-old daughter, "Bella." All three were living together when he shot her, but we don't know what room Bella was in when it happened.

Another family member (I'll call her Lucy) took Bella into her home, and Bella calls her Mom. Lucy has been taking Bella to the prison to visit her father, but has told her he is her uncle. I told Lucy I thought it would be better to wait until Bella is old enough to understand, THEN tell her what happened and let her decide whether she wants to visit her father.

Bella went into the closet one day and came out holding a T-shirt with her mother's picture on it, asking, "Who is this?" Lucy's only response was, "You know you aren't allowed in my closet. Take that back!" She never answered the question.

I have a framed photo of Bella's mother on my wall. The last time Bella was here, I noticed her looking out of the corner of her eye and scowling at the picture. I was the only one who noticed.

Bella is now 4, and I can't accept that Lucy thinks it's OK to lie to her. I feel it should be Bella's decision whether to visit her dad. Am I wrong? How should this be handled so Bella isn't traumatized any more than need be? Because of these incidents, I'm almost convinced she should have some kind of counseling, but perhaps she's too young. This is why I desperately need advice, in the best interest of the child.

BELLA'S GREAT-GRANDMA

DEAR GREAT-GRANDMA: Is Lucy a member of your family or the murderous boyfriend's? I find it hard to comprehend that a family member of the victim would drag a toddler to a prison to visit the lowlife who killed her mother.

I do not think it is healthy to lie to children. This situation will explode when Bella finally learns that the woman she has always called "Mom" isn't her mother, and the man in the orange jumpsuit not only isn't her uncle but killed her birth mother. That poor girl won't know whom she can believe and could have trust issues that affect her relationships for the rest of her life. Does she need counseling now? No. But will she when she finds out about the deception? You bet!

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: What is your opinion about females and car maintenance? My mother raised me alone and taught me to be independent. She would not let me drive an automatic car until I had mastered driving a standard (stick shift). I was also not allowed to drive until I was able to perform basic, essential tasks—changing a tire, checking the oil and maintaining all fluid levels.

I am thankful and appreciate that I have these skills. However, I know many women today who can't perform these tasks and would rather make it a "man's job." I think every woman should have these skills. Where do you stand?

INDEPENDENT LADY IN FLORIDA

DEAR INDEPENDENT LADY: I stand beside you. There is no guarantee that a woman will have a man to "take care" of her—in fact, the opposite is more likely to be true. However, if she can't learn the basics of taking care of her car, she should be sure that she's a member of AAA.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

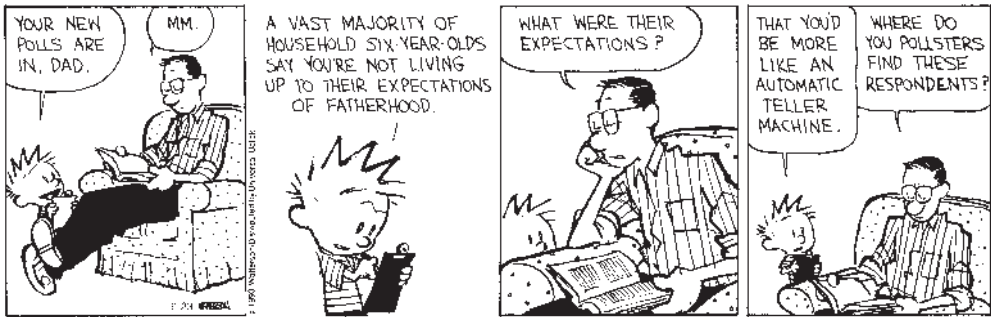
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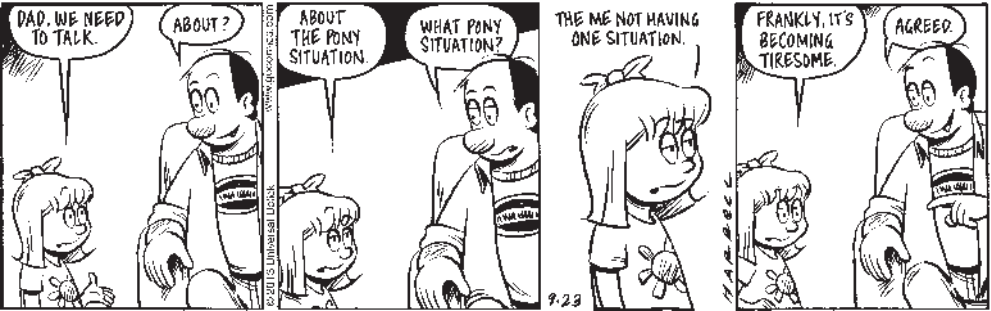
By Jim Davis



Adam@home

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



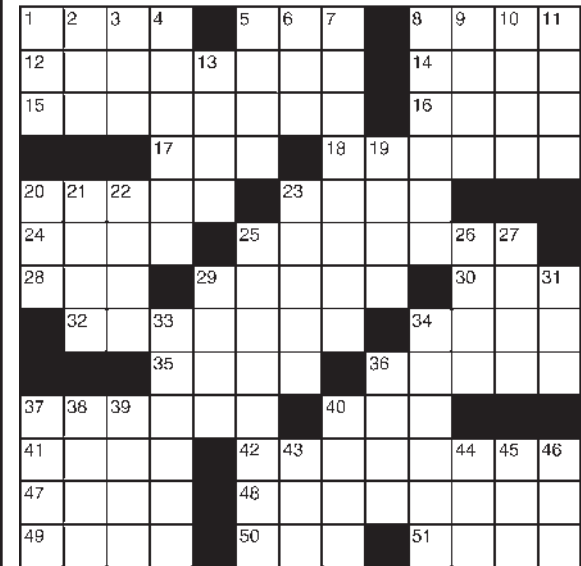
CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 35 Under-garment, for short 4 Bowl game 21 Eager 1 Related (to) 36 Things may be 22 Persian sprite 5 Opposite of "post-" 37 Throngs 23 High, wispy clouds 8 Rolling stone's lack? 40 Blackbird 25 Armageddon 12 Philanthropist's gift 42 Reveal 26 Anger 14 World's fair, for short 47 Fairy-tale baddie 27 Tom-tom or snare 15 Prudently silent 48 Boeing's business 29 Con job 16 Profound 49 Existed 31 Mornings (Abbr.) 17 Yon maiden 50 Verily 33 Use caller ID, e.g. 18 Animal's hind-quarter 51 Shell-less snail 34 They'll make you stand tall 20 Insulation material 35 Detail, briefly 36 Bygone Peruvian 29 Tender spots 37 Unkempt one 38 Carry on 39 Land measure 40 Largest continent 43 "— been had!" 44 Lubricate 45 Old French coin 46 Brit's lang.

Solution time: 27 mins.

Friday's answer 9-23



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jason Alexander, 54; Bruce Springsteen, 64; Mary Kay Place, 66; Mickey Rooney, 93.

Happy Birthday: It's time to follow your creative voice, to look inside using your talents in diverse and unusual ways and to expand your interests and your income. Take charge and stand up to anyone trying to dictate or make choices for you. Call in favors and opt to engage in friendships and work relationships with positive people who share your goals. Your numbers are 8, 13, 15, 21, 28, 37, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Think about what's going on in your personal life and consider whether or not you are paying enough attention to what you value the most. Personal and professional partnerships are undergoing changes that must be handled carefully.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Trust your intuition. If something appears to be wrong with a relationship or group you are involved with, take care of the problem before it's too late. Speaking overtly will clear the air so you can make a decision to stay or to leave.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep a fresh attitude and an honest approach to whatever you do or say. Spectacular opportunities can develop if you network and interact with people who are traveling down a similar path as you. Communication will bring good fortune.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You may have something good to offer, but trying to talk others into following suit will not

be easy. Don't worry about what others do or say when what's important is how you turn what you are doing into a success.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Make whatever changes or adjustments necessary to ensure that you can handle what needs to be done on your own. A relationship problem will limit your productivity. Take better care of your health and emotional well-being.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Plan a vacation or begin one. Moving about or embracing new information or possibilities will prove to be beneficial. A gentle nudge will get others to pitch in and help you finish whatever needs to be done. Love is in the stars.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A financial deal, settlement or legal matter is apparent, but it will be important that you don't let it limit your freedom or stifle your connection to someone who has helped you in the past. A medical issue shouldn't be ignored.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Enjoy personal encounters that allow you to share your thoughts and make plans for the future. Use your imagination and you will open up a host of new possibilities that can lead to a healthier and better lifestyle.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Visit someone who can offer you information that will help to guide you in a better direction. Take better care of your emotional and physical self. What you do to improve your image will turn out well.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You judge and initiate whatever it is you want to see happen. By taking control you will prove that you have what it takes to get things done. An offer will put you at odds regarding what to do next. Don't act in haste.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Stay focused on deals and money matters, along with settlements and legal issues, and you will come out on top. Don't let a personal emotional problem stand between you and success. Make choices that will improve your life.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Push a little harder and you will open up doors that have been closed to you in the past. A deal will lead to prosperity and good connections with people who have something to offer. Someone from your past can help you excel.

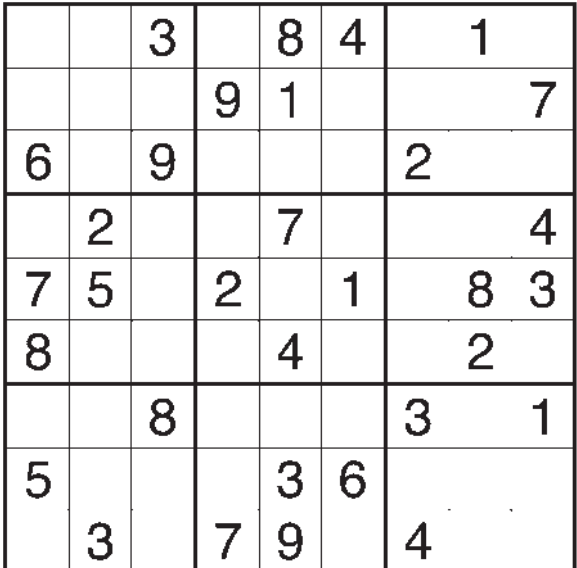
Birthday Baby: You are determined and full of desire. You are courageous and steadfast.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

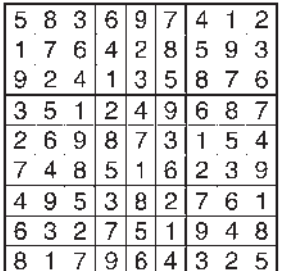


Difficulty Level ★ 9/23

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

OKTOBERFEST Solution: 9 letters



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Stenson takes 4-shot lead into Sunday at East Lake

ATLANTA (AP)—Stepping in from rain that ruined his rhythm and the back end of his round,



Henrik Stenson was more interested in looking forward at the Tour Championship.

pionship.

He still had a four-shot lead.

He was one round from capturing two trophies worth \$11.44 million, including the FedEx Cup.

The Swede just made the final day of the PGA Tour season a little more interesting over the last two hours of a dreary Saturday morning at East Lake. He had a nine-shot lead at the turn and walked off the 18th green with a three-putt bogey and his lead back to where it was at the start of the day.

"Of course, I want to win two," Stenson said after a 1-under 69. "If I can't win two, I'll be very pleased to win one. If I'm winning nothing, it will probably be not so sweet from this position. But I didn't have anything when I came here, so we'll see what we'll leave with."

Stenson appeared to have both wrapped up when he got up-and-down from a bunker on the par-5 ninth for a tap-in birdie to reach 14 under, nine shots clear of Dustin Johnson. Everything changed as the rain began to fall.

Stenson made four bogeys on the back nine, it might have been worse if not for a pair of 12-foot putts he made on the 14th hole for bogey and the 17th hole for par. Johnson was five shots better on the back for a 67, matching the low round of a tough day for scoring and got into the last group.

"I think I'll choose to look at it from the bright side, even though the weather is not that bright at the moment," said Stenson, who was at 11-under 199. "Started the day with a four-shot lead and I still got it. So that's all that matters really."

Johnson and Steve Stricker, who had a 68 and was at 5-under 205, were the only players within six shots of him.

Johnson was the last man into the 30-man field at East Lake, and he left Chicago on Monday not sure whether he would get in. Now he at least has a shot to start and end the season with a victory. Johnson's other win this year was at Kapalua in the Tournament of Champions.

"If I keep driving it straight, then I'm going to give him a run tomorrow."

Stenson, the No. 2 seed in the FedEx Cup, is still in great shape to go home with a lot of money - \$10 million for winning the FedEx Cup, \$1.44 million for winning the Tour Championship. Even if he were to finish third, he still would be in good shape to win golf's biggest payoff.



Henrik Stenson, of Sweden, points to the green before taking his putt on the sixth hole during the third round of play in the Tour Championship golf tournament at East Lake Golf Club, in Atlanta, Saturday, Sept. 21, 2013. AP

Tiger Woods, the No. 1 seed, didn't make a birdie until he chipped in on the 14th hole. He rallied for a 69, the first time he has broken par all week. Woods was at 3-over 213, 14 shots behind in a tie for 26th.

Among the other FedEx Cup possibilities Sunday:

-Stricker, who had a 68, could win the FedEx Cup by winning the Tour Championship. He could win with a runner-up finish, provided Stenson finished

lower than ninth and Zach Johnson—in the group at 4-under 206—was worse than seventh.

-Zach Johnson, the No. 4 seed, still had a shot at the \$10 million even without winning. He was seven shots behind, but one scenario is for him to finish runner-up and Stenson to finish third.

- Yes, even Dustin Johnson is mathematically still alive as the No. 30 seed. He would need to win (possible), have Woods

finish last (possible) and make sure Stenson finishes in the 15th place (total long shot). Johnson wasn't interested in all that math and it wasn't his field of study at Coastal Carolina, anyway.

"They didn't require math," he said.

All he cares about are the scores, and he's still in with a chance after making up five shots on the back nine. That was mostly Stenson's doing. The Swede got loose with a few

shots, and the rain didn't help.

"I can't really complain that it was any tougher for me than for anybody else," Stenson said. "When you lose a little bit of momentum ... it's just hard to find your rhythm again when you're kind of jumping in and out from underneath an umbrella and trying to whack it to get back in underneath again. So it's a little more difficult, but we still kept it together. Like I said, we've still got a four-shot lead."

If anything, he felt bad for Adam Scott, whom he led by four shots at the start of the day.

Scott felt so miserable overnight and Saturday morning that he had IV fluids administered at East Lake and showed up on the range only about 25 minutes before his tee time. He was sick and it showed with a 40 on the front nine. Scott wound up with a 74 to fall nine shots behind and was thankful to doctors for getting him ready to play.

Chiefs off to perfect start under Andy Reid

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—



Jamaal Charles hasn't forgotten the nightmare that was last season, making the first words out of his mouth in describing the Kansas City Chiefs' perfect start quite appropriate. "It's a dream," the Pro Bowl running back said.

An impressive 26-16 victory over the Eagles in coach Andy Reid's return to Philadelphia on Thursday night left the Chiefs 3-0 for just the second time in a decade. The Chiefs have won their first three games only eight times ever, and six of the previous seven ended in the playoffs.

"We've been through a lot in the six years I've been here, and I know they don't want to go through (the hard times) again," Charles said, "so having a change and Andy Reid coming on and being the coach, he just says to go out there and have fun."

Sure is easier to have fun when you're winning.

The Chiefs have already eclipsed their win total from all of last season, and they're not doing it with smoke and mirrors, either.

Try turnovers and defense.

The Chiefs have forced nine turnovers and have yet to commit one after tying for the league lead with a minus-24 turnover differential last season. They forced the Eagles into five of them on Thursday night, including a pick-six by safety Eric Berry.

"Turnovers and points on both sides of the ball are very important," Reid said during a conference call with reporters on Friday. "That's been from the first meeting with the players, that's what we stressed, and touchdowns do matter from special teams, from offense and defense. You want everyone to be involved in that part."

The Chiefs defense, which allowed 40 points in their season opener a year ago, has allowed 34 points through its first three games. That includes what



Kansas City Chiefs coach Andy Reid calls a play during the second half of an NFL football game against the Philadelphia Eagles, Thursday, Sept. 19, 2013, in Philadelphia. AP

amounted to a shutout in their season-opener against Jacksonville, which managed just a safety off a blocked punt.

Kansas City piled up five more sacks against the Eagles, wrangling to the turf elusive quarter-

back Michael Vick on just about every play. Justin Houston had 4 1/2 of the sacks, pushing his total to 7 1/2 this season, and even recovered a pair of fumbles - one that he caused.

Houston's sack total made him

the third-fastest player in franchise history to reach 20 sacks to start a career since it became an official stat in 1992. The only players to do it more quickly offer some good company: Derrick Thomas and Jared Allen.

Cardinals beat Brewers 7-2, maintain 2-game lead

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Matt Carpenter broke Stan Musial's team record for doubles by a left-handed



batter in a season and Lance Lynn won for the first time since early August as the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Milwaukee Brewers 7-2 Saturday to maintain a two-game lead in the NL Central.

Seeking their first division title since 2009, the Cardinals (91-64) have surged ahead of Pittsburgh (89-66) and Cincinnati (88-67), which fell three back with a 4-2 loss in Pittsburgh.

St. Louis lowered its magic number to one for clinching

a postseason berth, won for the 12th time in 17 games and improved to 14-4 against the Brewers this year, including 8-1 in Milwaukee.

Carpenter's fifth-inning double was his 54th of the season, one more than Musial's total in 1953.

Lynn (14-10) allowed one run, four hits and four walks in 6 1-3 innings with seven strikeouts. He had been 0-5 with a 5.44 ERA in eight starts since winning at Cincinnati on Aug. 4.

Yovani Gallardo (11-10) gave up two runs and four hits in seven innings and dropped to 1-11 with a 6.46 ERA in 17 career

starts against St. Louis.

Matt Adams hit a two-run homer for the second straight night for the Cardinals.

Pirates 4, Reds 2

In Pittsburgh, A.J. Burnett scattered four hits over seven strong innings to help Pittsburgh move a game in front of Cincinnati for the top spot in the NL wild-card race.

Burnett (9-11) struck out a season-high 12 and Jason Grilli worked the ninth for his 31st save, his first since going to the disabled list with a strained right forearm in July.

Russell Martin hit a two-run homer and Jose Tabata added

two hits as the Pirates bounced back from a late collapse in a loss on Friday night.

Zach Cozart hit his 12th home run of the season for Cincinnati and Ryan Ludwick added an RBI but Homer Bailey (11-11) ended his winning streak at six straight decisions.

Cubs 3, Braves 1

In Chicago, Dioner Navarro hit a tiebreaking single in a three-run eighth inning as Chicago Cubs Atlanta to keep the Braves on the brink of the NL East championship.

Atlanta's magic number remained at one to clinch its first division title since 2005.

Second-place Washington was rained out against Miami later Saturday.

Starlin Castro singled off Kris Medlen with one out in the eighth, pinch-hitter Donnie Murphy singled against Scott Downs (2-1) and Anthony Rizzo hit a tying double down the left-field line.

Navarro singled in the go-ahead run against David Carpenter, and Nate Schierholtz added a sacrifice fly. Carlos Villanueva (7-8) got three outs for the win and Pedro Strop had the save.

Dodgers 4, Padres 0

In San Diego, Clayton Kershaw struck out 10 in seven dominant innings, and Yasiel Puig and A.J. Ellis hit two-run homers as NL West-champion Los Angeles beat San Diego.

Kershaw (15-9) lowered his major league-leading ERA to 1.88 and leads the NL with 224 strikeouts. He held San Diego in check on three hits after losing to the Padres in three other starts this year.

The left-hander is trying to become the first pitcher to lead the majors in ERA in three consecutive seasons since Atlanta's Greg Maddux from 1993-95.

Ellis homered in the fourth off rookie Burch Smith (1-2).

Puig then connected on a shot to center field in the seventh that was estimated at 457 feet.

Diamondbacks 7, Rockies 2

In Denver, Matt Davidson homered and drove in three runs, and Gerardo Parra had three hits as Arizona beat Colorado.

Chris Owings also had three hits for the Diamondbacks, who won for the first time since being eliminated from the NL West race Thursday.

Arizona starter Trevor Cahill (8-10) lasted into the sixth despite taking a line drive by DJ LeMahieu off his right leg in the bottom of the first.

Charlie Blackmon had three hits for Colorado and Colin McHugh (0-3), still looking for his first career win, allowed six runs and 11 hits in five innings.

Mets 5, Phillies 4, 6 1/2 innings

In Philadelphia, David Wright and Daniel Murphy hit solo home runs as New York beat Philadelphia in a game called in the top of the seventh inning because of rain.

The game was halted and then called after a wait of 1 hour, 28 minutes.

Wright connected for the third consecutive game, and second straight day since returning from a hamstring injury that sidelined him for more than a month. Murphy broke a 1-all tie with a homer in a four-run sixth. His 12th homer of the season tied a career high set in 2009.

Juan Lagares chased Phillies starter Tyler Cloyd (2-6) with a two-run triple in the sixth.

Dillon Gee (12-10) yielded four runs on seven hits with a walk while going the distance.

Tigers 7, White Sox 6

In Detroit, the Detroit Tigers tied the game with an astonishing six-run rally in the ninth inning, then beat the Chicago White Sox when Omar Infante hit an infield single with the bases loaded in the 12th.

Infante's grounder deflected off the glove of reliever Jacob Petricka (1-1) with one out, and the Tigers spilled onto the field with Comerica Park in a frenzy. Detroit plays its final scheduled home game of the year Sunday and can clinch a third straight AL Central title with a win and a Cleveland loss.

Trailing 6-0 in the ninth, the Tigers scored five runs before the first out. Pinch-hitter Andy Dirks hit a three-run homer to pull Detroit within one.

Al Alburquerque (4-3) got the win.

The Tigers won after trailing by six in the ninth for the first time since Aug. 22, 1947, according to STATS. They beat the Washington Senators 7-6 that day.

Rays 5, Orioles 1

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Alex Cobb took a three-hit shutout into the ninth inning and Desmond Jennings drove in four runs as the Tampa Bay Rays beat Baltimore in a matchup of exhausted teams to maintain their lead in the AL wild-card race.

The first pitch came 10 hours, 56 minutes after the Rays' 5-4, 18-inning win over Baltimore that ended at 2:05 a.m., a game that stretched on for 6:54 — a record time for both teams. Saturday's game, by comparison, seemed to breeze by in 2:51.

Tampa Bay leads for the wild card, a half-game ahead of Cleveland. Texas is one game behind the Rays.

Cobb (10-3) struck out 12. He didn't allow a hit until Steve Clevenger singled with two outs in the fifth, and left after Adam Jones' RBI single in the ninth.

Miguel Gonzalez (10-8) gave up three runs, two hits and five walks in six innings.

Indians 4, Astros 1

In Cleveland, Scott Kazmir allowed four hits in seven shutout innings and Michael Brantley hit a two-run homer as the Cleveland Indians maintained their hold on an AL wild-card spot with a win over Houston.

The Indians won for the eighth time in 10 games. They lead Texas by a half-game for the second wild-card slot.

Houston, a major league-worst 51-104, has lost a season-high eight in a row.

Kazmir (9-9) struck out 10 and walked two. Paul Clemens (4-6) allowed four runs in 4 2-3 innings.



AP
St. Louis Cardinals starting pitcher Lance Lynn throws against the Milwaukee Brewers during the first inning of a baseball game Saturday, Sept. 21, 2013, in Milwaukee.

NBA revises media policy for players, coaches

NEW YORK (AP)—The NBA is revising its media guidelines, loosening some obligations on players and coaches while making some additions it feels will improve access and be more enforceable.



The new rules, sent to teams Friday, lessen the amount of times players are required to be available on game days but mandates they speak at least once while sidelined with a long-term injury.

Coaches can shorten the length of time they have to open practice to reporters and won't be required to meet with the media after morning shootarounds at home, but will still have to when they're on the road.

NBA senior vice president

of communications Tim Frank said the changes were made in an effort to "achieve consistency across the league."

"It was time to take a fresh look," Frank said. "We've basically had the same rules for 30-plus years and with the changing media landscape it was clear there were redundancies and we needed to adjust."

The old rules required players to be available at the morning shootaround and before the game, though most picked only one and some did neither. Now, they can choose one, but if their team doesn't hold a morning workout, they will be required to be available at pregame if requested.

Players frequently didn't talk when injured, and in the case of recent late-season inju-

ries to Derrick Rose and Kevin Garnett, their teams' seasons ended before they ever spoke to reporters after getting hurt. The new rules require a player with a long-term injury to meet with the media within a week of the diagnosis, if medically possible, and speak once a week after he returns to practice, even if he hasn't resumed playing in games.

Also in the 2013-14 guidelines, which appear in the league's operations manual and its media website:

- Practices must be open to reporters, either at the beginning or end, for 15 minutes, down from 30.

- Locker rooms will be open before games for 30 minutes, down from 45. However, both coaches will speak before that

window begins. Most coaches previously spoke during the 45-minute window.

- Players must be available within 45 minutes after a game ends.

The league worked in conjunction with the NBA Public Relations Directors Association, the Professional Basketball Writers Association, its players and coaches during the review process.

"Our players will continue to be the most accessible in sports but what we found is the rules were outdated and actually not even in line with media needs," Frank said. "We needed rules that were sensible for our teams, players and coaches that met the needs of the media and we feel we have accomplished that."

Mayweather gloats: I am not thinking about Manny

By ROY LUARCA
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BOXING

That's the adamant stance taken by Floyd Mayweather Jr. following another masterful performance against Saul Alvarez Saturday night (Sunday in Manila) in Las Vegas.

"I am not thinking about Manny Pacquiao," Mayweath-

er told Agence France-Presse when asked about his possible opponents in the near future.

The unbeaten American may be running out of credible foes, but he continues to ignore calls by boxing fans that he fight the Filipino eight-

Floyd Mayweather Jr. lands a punch against Canelo Alvarez in the third round during a 152-pound title fight, Saturday, Sept. 14, 2013, in Las Vegas.



Chamber hopes to raise \$15K from golf tournament

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce hopes to raise \$15,000 for its scholarship fund in next month's Saipan Chamber of Commerce/Steven Brownstein Golf Classic at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

Chamber executive director Richard Pierce said just this last June the business organization awarded \$12,000 in college scholarship funds to six Saipan high school students attending colleges this year.

The two-man best ball scramble format will have three categories of play—men's low gross, men's low net (double peoria), and women's low net (double peoria).

Winners in all three categories will take home \$1,000 each. Second and third place finishers will be awarded \$500 and \$300

each, respectively.

There will be four hole-in-one prizes with automobiles and cash awards, among them

a 2014 Hyundai Elantra generously put up by Triple J Motors. There will also be airline tickets for closest-to-the-pin contests.

In addition there will also be tons of raffle prizes made up Duty Free Shoppers Saipan luxury bags, Delta Air Line tickets, hotel rooms, \$1,000 fishing reels, dinners, electronics, smart phones, among others.

Pierce estimates that all prizes for the Oct. 5 golf-fest totals \$99,000. He also expects a full house with 144 golfers anticipated to take part in the toumey.

This year's Chamber fundraiser golf tournament has been rechristened 2013 Saipan Chamber of Commerce/Steven Brownstein Golf Classic in honor of Brownstein who recently donated \$5,000 to the business organization.

Brownstein owns and operates Straight Line International/The HR Screener as The Background



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Triple J Motors sales manager Ben Lizama puts on display the 2014 Hyundai Elantra that will be featured as a hole-in-one prize at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce/Steven Brownstein Golf Classic at Laolao Bay Golf Resort on Oct. 5. Pictured clockwise are Nola Hix, SCC board and events committee chairperson, Chamber executive director Richard Pierce, board and events committee chair Kevin McCale, Lizama, and Alex Sablan, Saipan Chamber of Commerce president.

KFC
From Page 28

reacting on defense. Borromeo, on the other hand, came off the bench and started his streak with a triple.

Despite a twin-digit advantage, KFC/Taco Bell didn't letup both on defense and offense in the fourth quarter. It neutralized the 1-2 backcourt punch of Kobe Mendoza and Carlo De Leon at the top of the key, making it difficult for big men Ong, Santos, and Gerald Flores to receive entry passes. In their first two playoff wins, the three DYS frontliners cherry-picked in the paint, but in the finals it was KFC/Taco Bell's big men who prevailed.

Michael Espino, who formed KFC/Taco Bell's potent trio with

Fidelino and Marc Ogasawara, started in the fourth and teamed up with Jethro Cruz in dropping another 12-2 bomb to give their team its biggest lead, 80-59, 6:17 left in the fourth quarter. From that point, KFC/Taco Bell just waited for formality to hoist this season's U15 championship trophy. DYS then threw in the towel at the 2:32 mark of the final canto, as it pulled out its starters and KFC/Taco Bell did the same, while hanging loose on defense in the closing minutes.

C.J. Morales top-scored for KFC/Taco Bell with his 20 points, as he heated up early to keep the team afloat. He nailed 8 early points in the first quarter, which ended with KFC/Taco Bell behind by only a deuce, 20-22. DYS managed to take a slim lead in the opening canto, as Mendoza and De Leon found their target at

the get-go, while Warren Ellama came off the bench and contributed quickly with a triple.

Ellama went on to drop two more triples in the second canto, but the rest of his teammates began to struggle, while Morales poured more points and started to get help from Fidelino and Wilfredo Francisco to put KFC on top at halftime, 44-39.

Then in the third canto, DYS managed to regain the lead briefly off Ong's 6 straight points, 47-46, before Fidelino and Borromeo answered with their own successive baskets to give KFC full control of the match. Fidelino was the second best scorer for KFC with his 16 points, while Espinosa added 11 and Francisco and Jethro Cruz chipped in 10 apiece. Mendoza led DYS with his 16 markers, while Ong added

15. Sam Darag also had double digits for DYS with 14, but most of his points came when the game was already decided. Santos was scoreless, while Flores made only one field goal, a far cry from the combined 12-point output in their 50-30 semis win against the Ol'Aces.

Meanwhile, results of the U19 title game between the S.J. Ol'Aces and Sonics will be reported in *Saipan Tribune's* Tuesday edition.

KFC/Taco Bell 88 – Morales 20, Fidelino 16, Espinosa 11, Francisco 10, Je. Cruz 10, Borromeo 9, Amog 4, Alipio 2.

DYS 75 – Mendoza 16, Ong 15, Darag 14, De Leon 12, Ellama 9, Flores 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-22, 44-39, 68-57, 88-75.

division world champion.

Despite a bum decision loss to Timothy Bradley and a brutal knockout loss to Juan Manuel Marquez, Pacquiao is widely perceived to be the only fighter capable of putting a blot on Mayweather's immaculate 45-0 card.

For Pacquiao to appear on Mayweather's radar, though, the fighting congressman from Sarangani province must first dispose of Brandon Rios on Nov. 24 at The Venetian Macao.

Lawyer Jeng Gacal, Pacquiao's legal counsel and close aide

who watched Mayweather give the previously unbeaten Alvarez a virtual boxing clinic, said he is losing hope that the flamboyant American will fight Pacquiao.

"He (Mayweather) doesn't really want to risk his unblemished record," said Gacal, newly elected councilor of Gen. Santos City where Pacquiao plans to train initially for the Rios tiff.

Gacal said a new physical conditioning expert will arrive soon to replace Alex Ariza, who was fired by trainer Freddie Roach.

Investigator and has been a member of the Chamber since 2005

The tournament fees will be \$99.95 for individual players, and registration forms will be available soon at the Chamber offices in Garapan, or by calling Emi Agulto at 233-7150, or emailing coordinator@saipan-chamber.com.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce, founded in 1959 and incorporated in 1976, is the largest private sector business organization in the CNMI. The Chamber works to promote and protect the business, economic and civic interests, and the general health and welfare, of our islands. (*Saipan Tribune*)

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES									
MLB STANDINGS									
AMERICAN LEAGUE									
East Division									
	W	L	Pct	GB					
x-Boston	94	62	.603	—					
Tampa Bay	85	69	.552	8					
New York	82	73	.529	11½					
Baltimore	81	73	.526	12					
Toronto	71	83	.461	22					
Central Division									
Detroit	91	64	.587	—					
Cleveland	85	70	.548	6					
Kansas City	81	73	.526	9½					
Minnesota	65	89	.422	25½					
Chicago	60	94	.390	30½					
West Division									
Oakland	92	63	.594	—					
Texas	84	70	.545	7½					
Los Angeles	76	78	.494	15½					
Seattle	67	88	.432	25					
Houston	51	104	.329	41					
NATIONAL LEAGUE									
East Division									
Atlanta	91	63	.591	—					
Washington	83	71	.539	8					
Philadelphia	71	83	.461	20					
New York	70	84	.455	21					
Miami	56	98	.364	35					
Central Division									
St. Louis	91	64	.587	—					
Pittsburgh	89	66	.574	2					
Cincinnati	88	67	.568	3					
Milwaukee	68	86	.442	22½					
Chicago	65	90	.419	26					
West Division									
x-Los Angeles	89	66	.574	—					
Arizona	78	76	.506	10½					
San Diego	72	82	.468	16½					
San Francisco	71	84	.458	18					
Colorado	71	85	.455	18½					
x-clinched division									
NFL STANDINGS									
AMERICAN CONFERENCE									
East									
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA			
New England	2	0	0	1.000	36	31			
Miami	2	0	0	1.000	47	30			
N.Y. Jets	1	1	0	.500	28	30			
Buffalo	1	1	0	.500	45	46			
South									
Houston	2	0	0	1.000	61	52			
Indianapolis	1	1	0	.500	41	41			
Tennessee	1	1	0	.500	40	39			
Jacksonville	0	2	0	.000	11	47			
North									
Cincinnati	1	1	0	.500	41	34			
Baltimore	1	1	0	.500	41	55			
Cleveland	0	2	0	.000	16	37			
Pittsburgh	0	2	0	.000	19	36			
West									
Kansas City	3	0	0	1.000	71	34			
Denver	2	0	0	1.000	90	50			
Oakland	1	1	0	.500	36	30			
San Diego	1	1	0	.500	61	61			
NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
East									
Dallas	1	1	0	.500	52	48			
Philadelphia	1	2	0	.333	79	86			
N.Y. Giants	0	2	0	.000	54	77			
Washington	0	2	0	.000	47	71			
South									
New Orleans	2	0	0	1.000	39	31			
Atlanta	1	1	0	.500	48	47			
Carolina	0	2	0	.000	30	36			
Tampa Bay	0	2	0	.000	31	34			
North									
Chicago	2	0	0	1.000	55	51			
Detroit	1	1	0	.500	55	49			
Green Bay	1	1	0	.500	66	54			
Minnesota	0	2	0	.000	54	65			
TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES									
ATLANTA (AP) — Scores Saturday in the Tour Championship, the US PGA Tour FedEx Cup finale at 7,307-yard, par-70 East Lake Golf Club:									
THIRD ROUND									
Henrik Stenson64-66-69—199									
Dustin Johnson68-68-67—203									
Steve Stricker66-71-68—205									
Zach Johnson69-68-69—206									
Justin Rose68-68-70—206									
Billy Horschel66-70-70—206									
Jordan Spieth68-67-71—207									
Luke Donald70-70-67—207									
Nick Watney72-65-70—207									
Webb Simpson68-71-69—208									
Sergio Garcia68-71-69—208									
Bill Haas70-69-69—208									
Phil Mickelson71-67-70—208									
Gary Woodland70-67-71—208									
Adam Scott65-69-74—208									
D.A. Points72-67-70—209									
Keegan Bradley72-65-72—209									
Jason Dufner74-70-66—210									
Jason Day68-74-68—210									
Hunter Mahan70-69-71—210									
Roberto Castro67-71-72—210									
Brandt Snedeker69-75-67—211									
Graham DeLaet68-71-72—211									
Jim Furyk70-68-73—211									
Matt Kuchar69-74-69—212									
Tiger Woods73-71-69—213									
Brendon de Jonge70-72-71—213									
Kevin Streelman69-72-74—215									
Boo Weekley70-75-73—218									
Charl Schwartzel68-79-77—224									
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS									

TEEN
From Page 28

and see AFC officials, say thank you to them. With their kindness, we are able to compete against

competitions here and win bids for hosting regional tournaments.

"This workshop will be of great interest to anyone and everyone involved in the organization of athletics event, management of teams traveling off-island, and sports administration in general. Every NMASA member should send at least one representative to the workshop," White wrote in the invitation letter sent to *Saipan*

sociation, and the Australian University Sports Association.

NMASA president Michael White during the association's meeting last month said local sports group should take advantage of this opportunity to help them conduct their respective

our peers and see how far we have gone in developing our players' skills. Through their help, we will be able to get more invitations and some if not most of you will have another chance to play for the CNMI National Team in

the future," Tan added.

The NMIFA head also reminded the players of the pride and privilege of playing for the CNMI, saying these should motivate the Teen Ayuyus to put on a good show in the qualifier.

Tribune last weekend.

White also extended the invitation to representatives of both the private and public schools on Saipan, as well as interested individuals from Guam, Rota, Tinian, Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia. Private and public schools on Saipan run their respective leagues/competitions through the Coalition of Private School Sports

Association and the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization. They hold volleyball, basketball, canoe racing, and soccer tournaments.

The first day of the workshop will be from 1:30pm to 4:30, while the second and last will take place from 8

The Week In Sports

Rain slows down action, again

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Bad weather forced the cancellation of majority of the games last week and left only indoor matches to push through.

In the Rotary caging played at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, the U15 and U19 divisions had their playoff games. DYS and KFC/Taco Bell went on to take the finals berths in the U15 division after beating the Ol'Aces and Rebelholics, respectively, while the S.J. Ol'Aces and Sonics advanced after defeating Rollers and Pro/Mariana Resort.

Over at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield, the weekday matches in the 2nd Annual DYS/Triple A Youth Baseball League were called off due to the soggy field, while the opening games in the 2013 NMIFA Youth Fall League both at the Oleai Sports Complex Field and Hopwood Junior High School were also rescheduled due to rain.

Fortunately for the visiting students from Japan, it did not rain last Wednesday evening and they were able to play against Tan Holdings FC in a friendly match.

Golfers had had some luck last week as they were able to compete in the MARPAC 40th Anniversary Golf Tournament held last Saturday at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. Rick Kautz and Nick Sablan recorded the best net score (69.80) in the two-man scramble double Peoria tournament, but the 40th placers Matt Deets and Tiberius Mocanu took the top prize in the weekend event.

In an off-island event, Leina Kim won her second tournament of the season after topping the Rocky Mountain Athletics Conference Tournament No. 2 held at Black Hill State in Spearfish, South Dakota.

Kim, who came from a record-breaking game in the opening season, went 6-over par 148 in the second tournament for a seven-shot win against Western New Mexico's Arrianna Estrada (13-over par 155). The CNMI golfer also handed her CSU-Pueblo to its second straight victory.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Japanese player dribbles after stealing the ball from a Tan Holdings FC player during a friendly game at the Oleai Sports Complex last week.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MARPAC president Frank Shimizu thanks players and supporters of the MARPAC 40th Anniversary Golf Tournament during the awards ceremony last week at the Pacific Islands Club.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

KFC/Taco Bell's Marc Ogasawara is double teamed by two Rebelholics players during semis game in the U15 division of the Rotary caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

KFC/Taco Bell's Michael Espinosa, right, goes up for a shot against a Rebelholics' Isaiah Retan during their semis game in the U15 division of the Rotary caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

DYS' Sam Darag goes for a layup against an Ol'Aces defender during their semis game in the U15 division of the Rotary caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Rollers' Justin Cayading hangs on to the ball during their playoff game against the Kagman Cougars in the U19 division of the Rotary caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

An Ol'Aces player pulls up for a baseline jumper against DYS' D.J. Ong during their semis game in the U15 division of the Rotary caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mariana Resort/Proa and Sonics players battle for the loose ball during their semis game in the U19 division of the Rotary caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Stenson takes 4-shot lead into Sunday at East Lake

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Cardinals beat Brewers 7-2, maintain 2-game lead

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28 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

KFC/Taco Bell bags U15 crown

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

KFC/Taco Bell ruled the U15 division of the 22nd Annual Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League after an impressive 88-75 victory over DYS last Friday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The winner-take-all finale was once tied before DYS crumbled in the last five minutes of the third canto, while KFC/Taco Bell delivered the killer blows in the fourth en route to the double-digit winning margin.

A basket by D.J. Ong evened the match for the last time, 52-all, before KFC went on a backbreaking 16-5 windup in the last 5:05 of the third period



to close the quarter with a promising 68-57 advantage. Jun Fidelino started the rally with his three straight short jumpers from the baseline, while Art Borromeo made the clean up, closing the frame with a string of 6 markers.

Fidelino get away with those open looks, as his defender Antonio Santos was a step or two slow in

See KFC on Page 26

Teen Ayuyus off to China for AFC qualifier



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI U16 National Team players are joined by NMIFA and team officials for a group photo during a send-off ceremony for the squad last Friday at the Kanoa Resort.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The CNMI is hoping to close the season

with a bang as it competes in the AFC U16 Qualifying Tournament in Wuhan, China this week.

"We want to walk out of this AFC event with a positive result," Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director and CNMI U16 National Team coach Johann Noetzel said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* last Friday during the send-off event for the squad at the Kanoa Resort.

The qualifier is the Commonwealth's fourth and last AFC event for this year and the task of giving the CNMI a strong finish lay on the shoulder of the 20-player roster of the Teen Ayuyus. The CNMI U16 National Team is composed of William Hinson II, Ken-

nedy Izuka, Ryan and Reniel Relucio, Joel Fruit, Ryu Tanzawa, Carlson Cruzat, Kenneth Mafnas, Jordan Butcher, Won Young Kim, Julian Pellegrino, Joshua Galario, Deng Jin Hui, Aaron Lee, Green Vidal, John Masga, Ivan Seo, Evan Belcher, and David Yang.

The Teen Ayuyus along with Noetzel, assistant coach Jerish Angeles, team manager Wesley Bogdan, equipment manager Gigi Zapanta, physiotherapist Pam Carhill of Marianas Health Service, and delegation head and NMIFA treasurer Elna Curate left Saipan for China yesterday and they are expected to arrive in Wuhan late last night or three days before the qualifier starts on Wednesday.

In China, the CNMI players will be playing in the Group I qualifier against the host, North Korea, and Myanmar. The Teen Ayuyus will debut against China before challenging North Korea and Myanmar on Sept. 27 and 29. The top finisher in Group I and nine

other pools and the best five runners-up will join host Thailand in next year's competition in Bangkok.

"We will be facing three tough opponents and we will push the boys to play quality games for the whole 90 minutes (each match). They are doing great are healing well after getting injured during the preparation for the U18 tournament in Guam," Noetzel said.

Meanwhile, NMIFA president joined other football officials and the players' parents and supporters in the send-off ceremony last weekend.

"This is our fifth send-off (including the one for the EAFF tournament in Guam last month) for our CNMI teams this year and every time we do this we are happy to have the opportunity to organize a team and send our players to compete in an off-island tournament like the AFC U16 qualifier in Wuhan," Tan said.

"So when you go to Wuhan

See TEEN on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

KFC/Taco Bell's Jethro Cruz elects to pass the ball to his teammate in this drive and draw play against DYS' Gerald Flores, left, and D.J. Ong during the fourth quarter of their title game in the U19 division of the Rotary caging last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Sports management workshop next month

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association is hosting the Micronesian Regional Sporting Event Management Program next month at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The seminar will be held on



White

of the prestigious Australian University Sport, the governing body of university sport in the Land Down

Oct. 25 and 26 with Don Spethman as facilitator. Spethman is the national program manager of

Under, boasting 41 members and more than a million athletes. At the seminar, the AUS official will be discussing how to deliver a successful event, team management, and club development.

Registration for the two-day seminar is free and is made possible through the collaboration of the International University Sports Association (FISU), Oceania University Sports As-

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